THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE FORTNIGHT.

MONDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER.

THE LONDON EXAMINER thus concludes a feeling article on the North West Famine:

"It does not follow, from the history of the North-west famine of November 1877 to March 1878, that the choice between English rule and native is only a choice of ropes to be hanged with. There is little to choose between extortion at the spear-point and extortion with a piece of stamped paper. But this form of it is only an occasional accident of a system of government which, with all its shortcomings, is the noblest experiment of the sort which the world has seen. Professedly, at least, it is our great purpose and ambition so to govern India as to evoke and cherish a sentiment of loyalty that shall prove as strong a guarantee for our security as even our battalions, and the mighty ramparts that stretch from Cashmere to the sea. But the present Administration is showing signs of a recoil from this ideal. We have a Ritualistic Viceroy who is more deeply engrossed in the wretched intrigues of lying, cut-throat Afghans, than in a famine which sweeps over half a province. We insist upon it, that the history of this famine calls for Parliamentary inquiry. If this account of it should prove correct in the main, the home Government would be bound to censure the Viceroy's negligence, and to demand the removal of a Lieutenant-Governor who, in other respects, has proved his unfitness for the position which he occupies.

But what does an official enquiry usually mean when the officer concerned has influence in high quarters—it means not only acquittal but also promotion.

AN ATTEMPT is being made to resuscitate the vernacular of the Irish as the medium of instruction. Mr. O'Connor Power, M. P., urged that the Irish language should be recognized as a part of the new scheme of intermediate education, but he was defeated. In a letter, written to a Mr. Charles O'Connor in 1857, Dr. Johnson expressed a strong wish for the cultivation of Irish literature, and a sympathy for the study of provincial tongues, "which has too long lain neglected, and which, if it be suffered to remain in oblivion for another century, may perhaps never be retrieved." We fear Irish literature has already come to that pass.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH has again written to the *New York Nation*, this time a letter of denunciation of the Beaconsfield Ministry, which he winds up with these words: "England has gained Cyprus, not a very valuable booty if it has no harbour, but her statesmen have lost by intrigue, deception, and violence, the reputation for open dealing, truthfulness, and probity, which the meanest of them once enjoyed." We say again Mr. Goldwin Smith is not a Professor of Manners.

AFTER A LONG period of financial tranquility, Scotland is again the scene of a monetary panic. Reuter flashes the news that the City of Glasgow Bank has stopped payment, with ten million pounds sterling of liabilities. The immediate result in India of the failure of the Glasgow Bank is the collapse of the firm of Nicol and Co., in Bombay. Other Indian firms it is said may be affected but no danger is apprehended in Calcutta. Many retired Anglo-Indians are likely to suffer from this disaster.

AS WE STATED in our last the Oriental Congress in Italy has commenced. The first Congress was held in Paris in 1873, under the presidency of M. Leon de Rosny, with whom the idea of holding the Congress originated; the second was held in London in 1874; and the third in St. Petersburg in 1876. Each reunion has been characterised by the peculiar turn Oriental study has taken in France, England, and Russia. Thus in Paris M. Leon de Rosny and his friends made Japanese subjects the main feature of the Congress. In London again the range of subjects was, as might have been expected, far wider, and included five sections; the Semitic, the Turanian, the Aryan, the Hamitico-Archæological, and the Ethnological. The Congress will long be memorable in the annals of Oriental scholarship, if only for the splendid discourse of Professor Max Muller, president of the Aryan section. In St. Petersburg the proceedings turned mainly on the history and archæology of the countries under Russian sway, not without however some intelligent side glances at British India.

TUESDAY, 1ST OCTOBER.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE takes a favourable notice of the annual report of Rai Kanyelal Dey Bahadur as Chemical Examiner to Government. Our contemporary says:

The Report has been drawn up by Assistant-Surgeon Kanye Lall Dey, Rai Bahadoor, who officiated as Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Examiner during the absence on leave of Mr. C. H. Wood, from the 12th of October 1877 to the close of the year. The work done during the year consisted of 742 analyses of a medico legal kind, involving the examination of the viscera of men and cattle, of articles suspected to contain poison and of articles supposed to be stained with blood or semen. In addition to these, 440 analyses of a miscellaneous kind were conducted and opinions given in several references. The total number of analyses performed was 1,182, which exceeded that of the previous year by 10. The number of medico-legal analyses exceeded that of 1876-77 by 30, showing that an increasing use is made of chemistry as an aid in the detection of crime.

Opium being thus one of the poisons most commonly used for purposes of suicide and homicide, it is satisfactory to find that Rai Kanye Lall Dey Bahadoor, has discovered a method by which its detection has been rendered more easy. He has observed that Indian opium contains a principle named porphyroxin, which is not present in Turkey and Smyrna opium. This principle can be isolated by a modification of Sta's process for the detection of various alkaloids. On the application of dilute hydrochloric acid and heat a red purple colour is developed whose intensity is proportionate to the amount of opium present. This test alone, the reporter states, is sufficient to detect the presence of Indian opium.

There were other important points noticed in the report. The Surgeon-General for Bengal in submitting this report pronounces it as "interesting and setting forth a large amount of painstaking and tedious work well executed." In this opinion we entirely concur; and we consider the acknowledgments accorded by Government to its author to be well deserved.

ASSISTANT SURGEON UMORTOLAL DEB, attached to the Howrah General Hospital, has discovered a new remedy for dysentery. In December 1876 Surgeon Major R. Bird, M. D., Civil Surgeon, of Howrah, submitted a report by the Assistant-Surgeon, in which he stated that he had found the root of the plant called in Bengali *Rungun*, belonging to the genus *Ixora*, to be very efficacious in the treatment of dysentery. He had tried four species of this genus, but while he found them all successful in curing dysentery, he gave the preference to the *Ixora bandxuca* (Roxb.) He had tried it in acute and chronic cases with very marked benefit, and considered it superior to Ipecacuanha. Dr. Pilcher in submitting his report says:

"I have no hesitation in reporting that the drug is very efficacious in dysentery, and that the best results have attended its use amongEuropeans andNatives in this hospital. Some few cases of dysentery did not appear to be affected by the drug in either way, but this is the case with Ipecacuanha. The drug was most efficacious as is the case with Ipecacuanha when the cases treated by it were seen early. I give it with confidence in all ages, and consider its operation in dysentery nearly equal to that of Ipecacuanha."

We are glad to learn that this medicine will be generally tried under the orders of the Surgeon General.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL in reviewing the salt administration report of the Board of Revenue for 1877-78 makes the following remarks:

The increased consumption indicated by increased clearance is very satisfactory. From the returns of internal trade which are now being compiled in this office, it would appear that the most marked increase was in Behar, where the average consumption of the population rose to nearly the same standard as that of Bengal generally, being this year upwards of 10lbs. per head after making all allowances for export beyond the province. The general increase in consumption throughout Bengal in a year of very high prices is a certain sign of the prosperity of the agricultural classes and a proof that the profits arising from the sale of their crops at abnormal rates have to some extent reached them and remained with them.

And this increased consumption went on notwithstanding the heavy duty of Rs. 3-4 annas per maund. Where was then the necessity for reduction of duty?

IN THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL a Bill has been introduced for the relief of indebted Ryots. The objects of the Bill are thus set forth: (1) To permit agriculturists to be charged only a reasonable rate of interest whenever interest is properly payable by them. (2) To provide all part payments and previous realizations being accounted for to their credit. (3) To prohibit their being made liable for compound interest. (4) To extend to agriculturists of all classes the benefit on the Hindu rule of *dam dudat*, and to extend the scope of that rule itself by providing that no agriculturist shall in any case pay interest exceeding in the aggregate the amount of his principal debt; and (5) to limit the liability of agriculturists in respect of ancestral debts.

THE TOTAL length of Indian Railways actually constructed is now 7,551½ miles.

THE MADRAS CORRESPONDENT of the *London Times* thus solves the reason of the jealousy of the Indian Civilian against the Vernacular Press:

"There is something in the atmosphere of an Indian official bureau that breeds a deadly hatred not of a vernacular Press in particular, but of a free Press, and if we could get to the bottom of the minds of those who counselled the "gagging" Act, we should probably find that their main objection was to adverse criticism of any kind. The Indian civilian who rises to high administrative functions is a very important personage. All his official life he is surrounded by native parasites to whom his word is law, and after long years of this training he cannot understand that anybody else should view questions in an opposite light to his own.

There is much truth in the above.

WEDNESDAY, 2ND OCTOBER.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA has entered into an effective alliance with Austria. Ten Austrian officers have been engaged for the Persian Army at £1,000 a year; modern Austrian rifles and some Uchatius guns have been brought; some Austrian officials will soon arrive to arrange Persian finances, customs, police, and the rest; others are engaged for the arsenal. Roads will be constructed; and hopes are held out of a French Company coming to construct a railway from Teheran to Resht, and another to supply Teheran with gas. It thus seems as if the present voyage of the Shah will be more beneficial to Persia than the last one. Is Persia cutting off from Russia?

RATHER a good story reaches us of the system of economy carried on in the Madras Civil Audit Department. On the accounts of a district official being scrutinised the lynx-eyed examiner was horrified to note an item of ans 3-6 for salt-fish as baits for rats. This was not to be passed unchallenged, and forthwith a return was called for of the number of rats killed during the last financial year to justify this expenditure of public funds. Who will dare say after this that India has no economising financiers?

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR of Bengal makes the following pertinent remarks in reviewing the last administration report of the Presidency Commissioner:

Commissioners must specially impress upon their subordinates that each district officer should be in the interior of his district at least three months in each year, and each sub-divisional officer at least four months. The tours need not always be crowded into the cold weather. In many districts of Bengal the rains are the best time at which to travel. District officers are quite losing their hold over the people from their habit of never seeing them except in court or in office. No district officer can possibly be efficient who does not know his district well, and who has not, by moving freely about the country, learnt something of the village life of the people. There has been a great change in this respect in the years, and it has been attended with the worst result.

Quite true. But His Honor ought to enquire why native gentlemen now-a-days are so unwilling to come into contact with European officers except on business. The gulf between the European and the Indian is daily widening.

IN THE SAME Resolution the Lieutenant-Governor says:

Trade in all country produce was abnormally brisk in 1877-78. It seems to have tempted some of the more respectable and hitherto uncommercial classes in Jessore to form petty companies of take shares in shops—a movement which the Lieutenant-Governor would like to see followed in many other districts. This is one of the most hopeful signs of the times, and occupation of this sort will gradually, it is hoped, absorb the numerous classes who are disinclined to, or incapable of, labour, and are unable to obtain appointments as clerks and writers.

We concur.

REGARDING the working of Local Committees in the Presidency Division the Lieutenant-Governor remarks:

Mr. Stevens, the Collector of Nuddea, explains that he did not intend in his last year's report to speak unfavourably of his Road Cess Committees, but his opinion is that Committees are not suitable to the management of large departments dealing with large tracts of country, though they may do very well for municipal work. As Mr. Peacock very properly remarks—"Committees do not manage the departments, but rightly used are the advisers of the Magistrate as regards the wants of the district in the way of communications." A Committee properly constituted has on it men who know more or less of many parts of the district. It is to be feared that Mr. Stevens was only too ready to centre all administration and work in his own hands, with results that have certainly not been satisfactory either to himself or to Government. In all other districts good and useful work was done by Committees of all kinds.

We can only say that confidence begets confidence.

OF THE CONDUCT of zemindars in the Presidency Division the Lieutenant Governor says: "There are so many good zemindars in the Presidency Division that it would be almost invidious to select any for special favorable mention. Those who are badly spoken of are few and far between." This is great compliment to the Zemindars of the metropolitan Division.

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER.

IN REVIEWING the administration report of the Chittagong Division the Lieutenant Governor says:

It appears that Mr. Lowis left no notes for the use of his successor, and Mr. Beames has consequently had great difficulties to contend with in preparing the annual report of a division which is conspicuous for its peculiar local features and for the special character of its people. It is generally understood that an officer who is relieved of his duties towards the close of the official year is not thereby absolved from the necessity of placing his successor in a position to submit an adequate account of the more important measures of the year. It might naturally be supposed that no specific directions would be required on a matter like this, and that the outgoing officer would take enough personal interest in his work to wish that its results should be fully and fairly recorded. But in practice it continually happens that Government has to put up with a meagre report in consequence of some transfer of officers which has taken place late in the year.

Is this notice a sufficient punishment for the offence committed?

THE LUCKNOW WITNESS writes:

"When our large native city was intersected by wide smooth carriage roads, wheeled conveyances began to crowd the palanqueen out of use and now nearly all the city travel is on wheels. Lately we notice another change. These carriages of all sorts that have been running the past 20 years are wearing out and we see them now transformed into hand-carts, which are rapidly superseding the head work of the traditional cooli. There is no doubt that the use of these hand-carts will rapidly extend along the metalled roads into the district and instead of one cooli staggering along with one maund of grain, a pair of enterprising men will wheel their cart load of five or ten maunds of produce into the bazaars of the city. It is a step forward, but it is one which makes labor still more than ever dependent on capital. The cooli alone cannot compete with the man with the hand-cart. But the baniya's money pays for the cart and so it seems to be but one more of the fetters which capital forges on the limbs of labor in India."

BULGARIA, Bosnia and Batoum were the three hardest knots to be cut at Berlin, and Beaconsfield and Bismark did the work. B may go to the head.

THE UNITED STATES Secretary of State, under directions from Congress, has addressed a letter to the British Government asking for a review of the Canadian fisheries case. It is urged that the award of five million dollars is excessive.

WITHIN the last year Her Gracious Majesty the Queen has given fifty thousand rupees to the temperance cause. Four members of the Royal household are teetotallers.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS of Prussia are endeavoring to take advantage of the action of the Old Catholics at Bonn in abolishing celibacy to re-open an appeal involving title to church property. The return of property given to Old Catholics is asked on the ground that the latter are no longer members of "the Catholic Church acknowledged by the State." The decision is looked forward to with great interest.

JAPAN has joined the postal union. China will not. Her post office is substantially the same as in the days of Marco Polo.

FRIDAY, 4TH OCTOBER.

WE LEARN from the *East* that Shaik Rohimulla, a wealthy Zemindar in the district of Chittagong, has made a donation of Rs. 1,500 towards the funds of the Chittagong College.

THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE is in a position to say that the Vernacular Press Despatch was written before Lord Salisbury had left the India Office, and that the greater part of it by Lord Salisbury himself. It issued after Lord Cranbrook's assumption of office, but he scarcely altered a sentence in the original draft; so that the whole praise or blame of the Despatch belongs to his predecessor and not to him.

IT IS understood that the medical profession are determined to have, if possible, a large number of representatives in the House of Commons at the next general election. Medical men complain that at present they are almost entirely without representation, while the Bar, the railway interests, trade, commerce, and all the other interests, have numberless spokesmen in Parliament. Dr. Andrew Clarke, it is said, will be urged to stand for the University of London. Sir Henry Thompson is also spoken of as a probable candidate for a seat.

WE HAVE received the following letter from the Principal of the General Assembly's Institution:

SIR,—My attention has been called to a short paragraph in your issue of 30th September, relating to a student of the General Assembly's Institution, who had been carrying on a disgraceful intrigue for five years. In this paragraph you say: "All this time the lad was taking Bible lessons at the General Assembly's Institution." Permit me to say this is not correct. The student in question was admitted to the Institution only in January 1878, and left it in April. During this time he was present on 24 days only. In what school he was reading during the rest of the five years, it is not for me to say; but I have good reason to believe that it was in a school where no Bible lessons are given.

Trusting you will insert this correction.

I am Sir,
Yours obediently,
JAMES WILSON,
Officiating Principal.

THE FOLLOWING is a translation of a notice which has been issued by the Turkish authorities about the tenure by foreigners of real property in the Hedjaz:

The Sublime Porte has recently been informed of difficulties which arise with regard to the right of foreigners to possess land in the Hedjas. These difficulties are chiefly owing to the desire of pilgrims from Java, India and Daghestan, to acquire land in the vilayet after a short residence therein. In order to prevent the recurrence of these difficulties, the Sublime Porte has instructed the Governor-General of the Hedjaz to give to those whom it may concern the necessary orders, not to permit henceforward transfers of land except in those cases in which the Ottoman nationality of the purchaser shall have been established in conformity with the existing law.

FORTY-ONE students at the Royal Engineering College, Cooper's Hill, have this year passed their final examination and are eligible for the public service. Twenty-seven of these have elected to remain for a year's practical course in England, while thirteen have elected to proceed direct to India to undergo their practical training. This is the first occasion on which the rule has come into effect that 10 per cent of the students passing out should be appointed to the Public Works Department in the third grade Assistant Engineer, and the remainder only as Assistant Engineers, second grade. The number of senior students in this case who have passed being forty one, the number to be appointed to the lower class would be four.

SATURDAY, 5TH OCTOBER.

PROFESSOR Reuleaux calls attention to the use of wood paper in Berlin, and points out that many important documents are now written in the German public offices on paper which cannot last much longer than fifteen years.

PROFESSOR Virchow's request for Hodel's skull for scientific purposes has been refused by the Berlin Judges.

THE NEW Dutch education law sanctioned by the King excludes the Bible and religious teaching from primary schools.

NEILGHERRY correspondents speak of the abundant wild fruits of that region. Strawberries, raspberries and Cape gooseberries are there in abundance. The latter are found everywhere, and of fine quality. The same fruit is abundant on some of the prairies of the west.

THE PRODUCTION of coal in Burma is on the increase. The quality is said to be very good and supply rich. A land that is so rich in coal oil is presumably rich in coal.

THE NEWEST and most reliable returns show an increase of 15 millions in the population of the world since the last general estimate was made. The number of millions in the great divisions of the globe are as follows: Europe 312; Asia 831; Africa 205; America 86; Australia, &c., 4½.

REFERRING to our articles on the Post Office of India, a Kurrachi correspondent writes:

"I hope you will not stop here but continue the agitation until the desired reforms are effected. It is strange that while educated native gentlemen are considered fit to hold High Court Judgships, to be in charge of native states, to act as subordinate judges, and subdivisional officers they are not considered fit to hold postmasterships of Presidency towns and important stations, or chief Inspectorships of minor provinces."

TO-DAY THE great Durga festival closes. It is the Vijaya day! High prices it would seem have told upon the Puja this year. We have no statistical return of the Puja in the town, we wish the Municipality had taken it, but it appears from all accounts that the number of idols worshipped this year was less than in the previous year. As usual the charity of our munificent neighbour, Babu Tarruk Nath Pramanik, surpassed that of all other worshippers in this city. During the last three days he gave away alms in sweetmeats and pice to some thirty thousand beggars at the rate of about four annas per head.

MONDAY, 7TH OCTOBER.

WE HAVE received the proceedings of a meeting of Pundits and other gentlemen interested in the revival of Sanskrit literature held at Dacca on the 24th ultimo. It was resolved to establish a Society to be called the Svarasvat Sabha or Pundits' Institute. The Chairman, Pundit Kali Kanta Shiromoni, informed the meeting that the objects of the Society will be as follows: (1.) Selection of Sanskrit text-books to be used in *Tolls*. (2.) The appointment of examiners to examine the *Toll* students annually, and to confer titles on passed candidates. (3.) Encouragement to be given to Pandits and pupils to keep up flourishing *Tolls*. (4.) The appointment of superintendents from among the Pandits for supervising *Tolls*. (5.) Publication of old rotten and rare Sanskrit books. (6.) Establishment of a Sanskrit Library, and (7.) Co-operation with other similar associations. It was announced that Kumar Rajendranarain Roy Bahadur, the enlightened and public-spirited son of the late Raja Kalinarain Roy Bahadur of Bhowal, had expressed a wish to carry out the long-cherished desire of his father to present a donation of Rs. 2 per head to the Pundits, who might assemble at the annual meeting of the Sabha, which it is estimated will cost him from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per annum, and that the liberal Kundus of Bikrampore, who are great patrons of Sanskrit learning, and the prime movers of the present movement, have placed Rs. 3000 at the disposal of the Sabha and also promised to found some scholarships. We wish the movement every success.

OLD JOHN Lawrence, the centenarian, and the oldest inhabitant of Aurungabad, breathed his last on the 26th ultimo. He lived to the respectable old age of 108 years, and was *chef de cuisine* of the Nizam's service, now the Hyderabad Contingent; to within a few days of his death he was seen to take his "morning constitutional" by the help of his walking stick.

THE BANGALORE SPECTATOR contradicts the rumour that the British Government will take a slice of Mysore by way of redemption of the Famine debt of that state. Our contemporary says:

In the first place the Indian Government cannot take an acre of land from this province without being guilty of a breach of trust. The province is held in trust for the Maharajah, and it must be delivered up to him entire when he comes to the throne. If the districts mentioned by our correspondent were to be taken in the way he describes, the Government would be open to a charge of annexation. There is no one in Mysore to make terms with, and of course, the Viceroy would have it all his own way, and the consequence would be that confidence in the Government would be completely shaken, and an immense amount of injury would be done. Mysore will be able in time to pay off its debt, and if the Government of India wanted the money all at once, the people in the province would soon lend it. When the country has been given over there may probably be some exchange of territory between the two Governments, but till that takes place nothing can be done. The report which has gone forth is calculated to do a great deal of injury in the province if left uncontradicted, and we are happy to be able to give a complete denial to it.

We gladly insert the above contradiction.

THE NEW Russian Internal Loan for 300,000,000 roubles has been, it is said, a wonderful success. The Russian banks have subscribed liberally.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, it is stated contemplates to establish some colleges of science in Bombay. He will found a Faculty of Science in the Bombay University. This is the logical development of the claims of Physical Science put forward by Sir Richard Temple in his last convocation speech.

TUESDAY, 8TH OCTOBER.

AN ENGLISH paper gives the following particulars of the movement of the Russian troops in Central Asia. General Kaufmann's force, it says, is composed of three *corps d'armee*, the first under General Troitzky, the second under General Gottenhielen, and the third under Abramoff. The first has gone towards Samarkand, the other two towards Cherdgi, and Djam. Abramoff, it says, is to subdue the population north of the Amou-Darya; Gottenhielen to occupy Merv; and Troitzky, with the main body, the country between the Amon-Darya and the Hindu Kush. This corps is then to advance from Samarkand through Bashash and Shulm Ramajan straight towards Cabul. As soon as all these operations are concluded, the Army will occupy Afganistan, and establish Russian dominion on the British confines. Of course we should receive these statements *quantum valeat*.

THE FOLLOWING is said to be the substance of the treaty offered by Sir Lewis Pelly to the Amir of Kabul:

1. That a British Resident should be stationed at the Amir's Court, protected by a strong guard of British troops.
2. That British Residents should also be permanently stationed at Cabul, Candahar, Herat, Jellalabad, Balkh, or such other places in Afghanistan as the progress and nature of political events might render necessary.
3. That British officers should be commissioned to discipline and organise the Afghan Army.
4. That in the event of any future advance of the British before Quettah in the direction of Herat, and of a European war, the British were to have the right of free passage for their troops through Afghanistan, and their temporary location there, at such places as their Government might select with reference to their strategic or other importance.

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AS WE HAD expected the Parsis have been refused admission into the Volunteer Corps. The Secretary to the Bombay Government writes to Mr. Cowasji Dorabji to say "that under the rules of that Corps none but Europeans or Eurasians can be enrolled in it: that it has been ascertained that the Corps will not consent to alter the rules in the respect, and that consequently His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets his inability to move on your behalf in this matter" Why had the Government then tantalised the Parsis with a false hope?

THE DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH has given birth to a daughter. This is the Queen's twenty-sixth grandchild.

WINTER MOVEMENTS of the Government of India are still unsettled but in view of the complication on North-West frontier. His Excellency the Viceroy has definitely given up all idea of visiting Rajputana this autumn. It is probable that the Government may come to Calcutta as usual and that His Excellency will go to Lahore for a time where he can be in close communication with the Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab and be at nearest point to both Kurrum and Quetta forces probably returning to Calcutta by Christmas.

WEDNESDAY, 9TH OCTOBER.

IT IS said that the Mikado of Japan has decreed that all his subjects, who hold official positions, shall dress themselves in European costume. The Japanese milliners, who had not seen any change in the fashions for a thousand years, have, it seems, consigned to Paris the thousands of native dresses they had in stock, and the Parisian ladies are wearing them as dressing gowns. Some of these silken skirts are so fine that they can be drawn through a finger-ring.

THE GOVERNMENT of India leaves Simla for Calcutta on the 10th proximo. The offices re-open at Calcutta on the 25th idem. The Council will sit in the capital under a president in Council. His Excellency the Viceroy leaves for Lahore about the 20th and remains there till about the 20th December, returning to Calcutta by Christmas. Movements after that date must depend on progress of events on the north-west frontier.

THE TOTAL amount of 5½ per cent. loan transferred to transfer loan at the Bank of England is 3,79,03,700 Rupees, additional 49,45,100 rupees having been transferred in England under notification of the 23rd September. The Amount of the additional Indian transfers is not yet known.

His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir has proposed to the British authorities to arrange measures in view of the scarcity in Kashmir for the more speedy importation of grain and to facilitate the emigration of those distressed Kashmiris who may be unable to obtain support.

THE DEATH of the KING of Burma is announced. His successor Prince Thibo has been peacefully proclaimed. Full precautions had been taken for protection of European life and property; everything is perfectly quiet at Mandalay.

THE OBSEQUIES of his late Majesty the King of Burmah will take place on the 7th instant. His body has been lying in state and Europeans have been admitted to view it. The new Government at Mandalay has announced a remission of some commercial taxes.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Faridkot has arrived at Simla. Recent information received from Kabul states that Abdulla Jan died of heart-disease.

LIEUTENANT MUIR of the body guard officiates for Captain Loch as A. D. C. to His Excellency the Viceroy. We hear that Mr. Caird has appointed Lieutenant Leach, R.E. to be his Private Secretary during the term of his connexion with the Famine Commission in India.

THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER.

THE MHARWARRA battalion has volunteered for service on the Frontier, and their services have been accepted by the Viceroy.

IT IS believed that Nawab Ghulam Hossain was permitted by Amir to leave Kabul for Peshwar on the 29th ultimo. The death of Allham Khan chief of the Southern Ghilzis, one of the most powerful tribes in Afghanistan, is announced.

COLONEL the Hon'ble G. Villiers, Military Secretary to the Viceroy, goes to the frontier and will probably join the staff of General Roberts. Colonel T. D. Baker C. B. Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, Assistant Adjutant General of Horse Guards, London, succeeds Colonel Villiers as Military Secretary to the Viceroy. Colonel Baker has done distinguished services in Crimea, New Zealand, Ashantee and lately accompanied General Skobeloff during Russian operations against Plevna and in Balkans.

RUMOUR STATES that, should a third Division be sent into Affghanistan, Sir Frederick Haines will assume the chief command of the Expedition.

CAPTAIN PEMBERTON, Deputy Commissioner of Nimar, was shot dead at Khandwa on the morning of the 8th, at a level crossing, by a discharged official The assassin shot a native while he was being secured.

A BILL has been introduced into the Governor-General's Council for the destruction of Useless Records. It owes its origin to the difficulty felt in the Bombay High Court, its object being to give the various High Courts power to dispose of masses of useless records daily accumulating in these and subordinate courts. Legislation was found necessary, as the documents proposed to be destroyed are in some cases private property.

FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER.

WE OBSERVE that the philosophical faculty of Gottingen has offered two prizes of 1,700 and 680 Marks for the best works on the causes affecting the change in chemical composition of plants of the same species, such as climate, soil, fertilisation, &c. They must include a critical review of all facts hitherto gathered on this subject, and suggestions as to the best method for completing our knowledge in this department, accompanied by the results of independent research in the directions indicated. Competitors must forward their work before Augnst 31st, 1880, and the decision will be announced March 11th, 1881. They can make use of Latin, German, French or English.

INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED from Resht, announces that the silk crop in those parts is likely to be a failure this year. The greatest part of the silk-worm eggs imported from Khorasan have turned out to be spurious, and microscopic observation have foretold the worthless nature of those produced in Ghilan. The crop is expected to be much worse than even last year's crop—and that was the smallest crop ever known in Ghilan.

THE LAST proceedings of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Calcutta contain the following report from Babu Protapa Chandra Ghosha on Kuch Behar tobacco:

"The leaves of tobacco you sent me the other day were made into fifteen cigars, twelve of which I send you herewith. The cigars are not yet sufficiently dry, they had better be kept in a closed tin box, a condition so favourable to the slow fermentation of the oily principle contained in the leaves. The leaves are very strong in flavour, and in smoking their wet condition favours the distillation of a good portion of nicotylin which enters the mouth and gives pungency to the taste. The leaves have an aroma of their own which may be likened to that found in the best kind of honeyed Virginian tobacco for chewing; the only difference being an excess of nicotylin, it being present in the proportion of 7 per cent. The ash is of a greyish white colour, but I fancy it would improve when a portion of the potasic nitrate with nicoty in has given out ammonium carbonate. A portion of the malcate and citrate salts would be no doubt reduced during fermentation, and the sweet taste which indicates the presence of nearly 2 per cent, of saccharine matter would no doubt be diminished, and the portion of alcohol so generated would again in smoking be reconverted into saccharine matter, and still add to the sweetness of the flavour which every body must have experienced in smoking cigars slightly moistened with toilet vinegar.

"In my opinion, the specimen is a fair one, and it might be pronounced as having been well cured. It is best suited for chewing purposes and for covering cigars. Cigars made entirely with this leaf would, I am afraid, be stronger than Burmah and Cocoanada. The leaves are finer than those from the above places, and are of a lighter colour. It is a pity that the mid rib has not been taken off before curing.

WE ARE glad to notice that Mr. Apear, the Southern Division Magistrate, Calcutta, has determined to put down overcrowding of passenger boats. He has fined heavily some boatmen for carrying excess passengers. We hope some one will examine the condition of the boats before issuing out licenses.

WE summarise our Krishnaghur Correspondent's letter regarding Rama Bai's visit to that town:

Rama Bai the learned Maharatha lady now on a visit to these provinces was lately invited to Krishnaghur and was received with some *eclat* at the Krishnaghur Rajbari, where special arrangements were made for her reception. The expenses attending her reception were met by subscriptions raised by the educated gentlemen of the place and the meeting was honored by the presence of almost all the learned Pundits of Nuddea. The originator of the movement was Babu Joggendralal Ray M.A, a son of the Raja's Dewan, and advantage was taken of the gathering of the Pundits of Nuddea on the 3rd day after the Puja at the Rajbari to fix the day of reception. On Pundit Satyanath Vachaspati being voted to the chair the trials of skill in composition possessed by the lady began and in all the questions put and the theses proposed she acquitted herself most creditably. Our correspondent remarks that the Pundits though men of note in the country, shewed an illiberal spirit and a sad want of gallantry in pointing their shafts more with a view to foil the lady than to evoke feats of literary skill.

We hear further subscriptions are being raised at Krishnaggur to enable the promoters of the meeting to present a purse to their amiable visitor.

SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER.

FROM a proclamation issued by the Chinese Governor General of the Provinces of Hunan and Hupeh in July last, it appears that a party of eight Russian travellers was expected shortly to pass through that province on their way to Hunkow. Sometime ago the Chinese Government, after much hesitation, consented to allow this party to travel from Russian territory through the Dungan country and Kokonor into Thibet, and from Thibet through Czechuen and Hupeh to Hunkow. In consequence of this permission, the Governor of Szechuen last year, and now the Governor General of Hunan and Hupeh have issued orders for the safe conduct of the party through the territories under their rule.

ADDITIONAL transfers under notification of 23rd September from 5½ per cent. loan to transfer loan 1879 amount in all to approximately 60 laks. Altogether about 760 laks have been transferred leaving about 2¼ crores of the 5½ per cent. loan then outstanding to be the subject of tender.

THE RAJA OF FARIDKOT and his son were received in private durbar by His Excellency the Viceroy yesterday afternoon.

THE WARRANT for retirement of Artillery and Engineer Officers is published in this morning's *Gazette of India*. Surgeon Bomford has been appointed to be Civil Surgeon in joint charge of Simla during the ensuing year. Dr. Bomford was specially commended for services rendered with the Perak expedition and has subsequently been employed in famine work in Madras.

REFERRING to the transfer of Babu Nobin Chunder Sen from Pooree the *Utkal Durpan* makes the following remarks:

"Many Bengalees holding high appointments come to this country, but among them there are only a few who are really high-minded. These gentlemen look upon Orissa as the country of the bearers and hate both the Ooryahs and their language. Even some of the officers of the educational department are not exceptions to this rule. But soon after his arrival at Pooree Nobin Baboo first of all learnt Ooryah and wrote a poem in that language. Who will not be delighted to read the poem that appeared in the 5th number of *Durpan*?

"He could not stay long in Pooree. But judged by time, the many things that he has done or that he attempted to do are unmistakeable proofs of his talent, and ability for work.

"There are several *mats* (monasteries) in Orissa). These *mats* have been endowed with estates which yield lakhs every year. But they are so mismanaged that the real objects of the endowments are never fulfilled. About 10 or 15 years ago Baboo Kedar Nath Dutt published a pamphlet in English describing the deplorable condition of these mats. The proposals contained in it ended, however, with its publication. We have heard that soon after his arrival at Pooree Nobin Baboo prepared, after such consideration, a code of rules for the better management of these *mats*, but the movement had to be dropped being opposed by a few selfish people.

Every year during the car festival at Pooree the pilgrims are put to endless sufferings. Many find their health completely broken down, whilst in the case of not a few the excessive overcrowding proves fatal. To prevent this state of things the worthy Magistrate of Pooree entrusted Nobin Babu with the superintendence of the late car festival. This gentleman spared no pains to alleviate the sufferings of the pilgrims. No Deputy Collector before him ever made such excellent arrangements for the conduct of the festival, or enabled the pilgrims to witness it with such comfort and ease. Everywhere the pilgrims unanimously praised Nobin Baboo for the excellent manner in which he managed the festival this year.

"Hitherto no proper accomodation was available at Pooree for foreigners holding higher appointments. By means of his popularity Nobin Baboo induced certain wealthy men of the place to build some really good houses, and has thereby partially removed a crying wans of the place.

"He exerted also a great deal through the agent of Messrs. Minchin & Co. of Aska to bring steamers to Pooree and thereby open a great outlet for its commerce. There was every probability of a steamer calling at Pooree, but the state of the crops being unfavourable, the proposal has been kept in abeyance for the present.

"Nobin Baboo was not only energetic in matters of public utility, but he was equally anxious to make himself popular. Narrow provincialism did not find any place in his heart. Instead of seeing Orissa with the eye of a Bengali, he saw her with the eye of a Hindoo. Every man of course has friends and enemies and no one can hope that Nobin Baboo could be an exception to this rule. It is specially impossible for men in high place, not to have enemies. But we can state with every confidence that he knew not what it was to hate an Ooryah because he was one. We believe that many gentlemen of Orissa now resident at Pooree will largely endorse this statement.

"Only in one matter he caused us some pain. He was directed by higher authorities to conduct the case against the Raja of Pooree. The Raja might have been guilty, but his sudden and tremendous downfall has astonished us and has broken our heart. This expression of our sympathy for the fallen Raja is not meant to show that Nobin Baboo's heart is devoid of that feeling. On the contrary we have learnt from reliable source, it was from a sense of duty he undertook the prosecution against his will. When the question lies between duty and sympathy, we freely confess, it is the duty of every public servant to incline to the former. We also admit that Nobin Baboo did nothing more than his duty. But independent of all that, we must say that he gave us pain in this matter though against his will and being placed in a situation in which he was entirely helpless. Reasonably we cannot blame him for this but a feeling of nationality does not allow us unconditionally to accept any reason. However no more should be said about it.

"In conclusion we must, for the sake of justice admit that few Bengalees come to Orissa who are as high-minded popular and patriotic as Nobin Baboo Many Bengalis do not dream of doing what he did in the course of 9 months. Unfortunately for Orissa she could not enjoy long an officer of such superior aspirations."

We are glad to notice this appreciation of the Bengali by his brother in Orissa.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR thus concludes his Resolution on the administration report of the Registration Department: "The duties of inspection appear to have been zealously carried out by the two Inspectors, Mr. Harrison and Babu Pratapa Chundra Ghosa, and an explanation should be submitted why only 23 inspections were made during the year by the Inspector-General himself The Lieutenant-Governor's acknowledgments are due to Mr. Bourdillon for his able administration of the department."

THE PARIS Exhibition honours, says the London Correspondent of the *Pioneer*, will be of some interest to India. Lord Lyttou and Mr. Hume (Commercial Department) will receive gold medals, Mr. Lock (Calcutta Museum) silver medal, and similar honours are to be given to Mr. Terry, Bombay School of Art, the Murree Beer Company, several of the tea companies, and to Mr. Minchin for his sugar and tea.

THE MEMORIAL bust of the late Mr. Woodrow is ready. The Secretary of State for India has permitted it to be exhibited for a short time in the Committee Rooms of the India Office.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the undermentioned publications and periodicals: 1, Writings Spiritual, Moral and Poetic. By H. C. Dutt. 2, Reports and Proceedings of the Bombay Association of 1875, 1876 and 1877. 3, Aborigins' Friend, No. 2, September 1878. 4, Trade and Navigation Returns for August 1878. 5, Report on the Administration of Indore for 1877-78. 6. A Card Statement of annual export of beads from Venice.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following European telegrams:

London 29th September.—It is semi-officially denied at St. Petersburgh that Russia counselled the Ameer to refuse to receive the British Mission, and it is explained that the Russian Envoy to Afghanistan, and the Russian expedition to Asia, were consequent on Sir Douglas Forsyth's mission and rumours that British Agents were at Bokhara during the late war; but that directly Congress had promised peace the measures were revoked. The Austrians have captured Livno, the last stronghold of the insurgents. Sir Charles Whetham has been elected Lord Mayor of London.

2nd.—Lord Lawrence has written a letter to the *Times*, in which he deprecates a British invasion of Afghanistan on the ground of its being too expensive, and advises that the Ameer should not be treated too hardly.

The City of Glasgow Bank has stopped payment with liabilities to the extent of ten millions sterling

4th. The Under-Secretary for war has tendered his resignation, and Mr. Ralph Thompson succeeds him. The *Times* proposes that if the Ameer apologises, we should demand the admission of an accredited British Minister to Cabul. The North German *Gazette* of Berlin publishes a semi-official Russian communication which lays stress upon Russian's need for peace, and states that Russia has no intention of supporting the Afghans

5th.—The *Times* says the situation is serious, but does not require instant war without adequate military preparations. If meanwhile the Ameer apologises he may yet escape punishment.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday to discuss the relations between England and Afghanistan, and lasted three hours. The *Standard* states that the prevailing opinion at the Council was that once the Ameer finds that the British are in possession of the mountain passes he will submit. A mere apology from him is deemed to be inadequate, and more solid guarantees will be required; any attempt to patch up the question cannot be tolerated. The Cabinet Council decided that India should bear portion of the expenses in connection with the Afghan business.

9th.—The *Times* supports the Viceroy's policy and action, and says that future relations between England and Afghanistan will greatly depend on the conduct of the Ameer. It is necessary that we should take ample guarantees for the safety of our Indian frontier, without asking Russia or any other power, England would gladly see the complete independence of Afghanistan, provided the Ameer was friendly; but if it insists on acting as our enemy, he must take the consequences.

Obituary.—Mr. Whalley, member for Peterborough, and Lord Chelmsford.

10th.—Colonel Stanley, the Secretary for War, speaking at a Conservative meeting at Blackpool, said the relations between England and Afghanistan had always been of a troublous nature. England did not desire to follow a policy of aggression and conquest, but she must be watchful when her neighbour evinced intention of handing the key to another power. It was, he said, gratifying to hear that the Indian Army had given evidence of the best sentiments towards Government at the present juncture.

12th.—Stoppage of the further withdrawal of Russian troops from Turkey is intended to accelerate a definitive conclusion of treaty of peace. A fire took place at a theatre in Liverpool last night when a great panic ensued and a frightful rush was made for the doors during which 37 persons were killed and many injured.

11th.—Disappointment is being felt in all quarters at the delay in seizing the Khyber Pass and it is considered imperative that the Cabul and other passes should be occupied before the winter. The Russian Press is assuming an aggressive tone. The Russians refuse to evacuate Burges and Kirkilissa. The Russians have definitively occupied Kizliyart in Turkestan. Mr. Caird has started for India, in connection with the Indian Famine Commission. Consols yesterday closed 94½, being a fall of three-eighths.

11th.—The Russians have again occupied Tchekmedje and Tchataldja.

Constantinople, 1st October.—Turkey has sent a despatch to her representatives abroad, denying the assertion made by the Greek Ministry that the Porte was inciting the Albanians against Greece, and attributing the calumnies to a desire on the part of Greece to justify her warlike preparations.

4th.—The Albanians have massacred a Pacha and 156 Turkish soldiers, and prevented the surrender of Podgoritza to the Montenegrins.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the *19th Inst.*, next at 4 P. M.

Subject: Iodine.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1878.

THE WAR WITH KABUL.

I

ACCORDING to all accounts the war with Kabul seems to be imminent. His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council has issued a notification announcing the formation of the expeditionary force. It is divided into three columns, Kurram, Multan, and Quetta. The first or Kurram Force is placed under the command of Major-General Roberts. The *Englishman* gives the following analysis of the regiments, which have been ordered to join the Kurram force:

Corps.		Strength.	Field strength.
F A. R. H. Artillery	...	163	130
11-9 R. A. (Mountain)	...	99	85
10th Hussars, 1st squadron	...	145	127
12th Bengal Cavalry	...	464	380
19th Foot 1st Battalion	...	850	750
2nd and 29th P. N. I.	...	1,424	1,200
Guides Infantry	...	755	625
4th and 5th Gurkhas	...	1,474	1,250
23rd P. N. I.	...	712	600
7th Company Sappers	...	100	90
Total		6,586	5,237
Of this force there are European soldiers	...	1,257	1,922

The force, as it stands, our contemporary points out, is lamentably deficient in artillery. It has only 6 horsed field-guns and a single mountain battery. The second column or the Multan Division comprises the under-mentioned strength:

Artillery.

A-B Royal Horse Artillery.
G-4 Royal Artillery.
5-11 Royal Artillery Heavy Battery.
6-11 Royal Artillery Heavy Battery.
11-11 Mountain Battery.
13-8 Royal Artillery.
16-8 Royal Artillery.
8-11 Royal Artillery and with siege train.

Cavalry.

15th. Hussars.
8th. Bengal Cavalry.
19th. Bengal Lancers.

1st Infantry Brigade

2nd Battalion 60th Rifles.
15th (The Loodianah) Regiment of Native Infantry.
25th (Punjab) Regiment of Native Infantry.

2nd Infantry Brigade

59th Foot.
1st Goorkha Regiment.
3rd Goorkha Regiment.
3 Companies, Sappers and Miners, with train.
12 (The Kelat-i-Ghilzie) Regiment of Native Infantry.
Engineer and Ordnance Field Parks.

Artillery.

E-4th, Royal Artillery.
No. 3 (Peshawur) Mountain Battery.
No. 2 (Bombay) Mountain Battery.

Cavalry.

1st Punjab Cavalry.
2nd Punjab Cavalry.
3rd Sind Horse.

The third column is the Quetta Division. It consists of the following troops:

Infantry.

70th Foot.
1st Regiment Punjab Infantry.
19th (Punjab) Regiment of Native Infantry.
26th. (Punjab) Regiment of Native Infantry.
32nd (Punjab) Regiment of Native Infantry. (Pioneers).
29th Regiment, Bombay Native Infantry (2nd Belooch Regiment).
30th Regiment, Bombay Native Infantry (Jacob's Rifles.)
5th Company Sappers and Miners,
Engineer and Ordnance Field Parks.

The following is an analysis of the total strength of the expedition:

		Strength.	Field strength.
Kurram force	...	6,586	5,237
Quetta force	...	7,032	5,880
Multan force	...	7,857	6,705
Total	...	21,475	17,822

European troops.

		Strength.	Field strength.
Kurram force	...	1,257	1,092
Quetta force	...	1,012	092
Multan force	...	3,319	2,625
Total	...	5,288	4,596

Such is the strength of the expeditionary force. The commanding officers of the three divisions are Major-General Roberts in charge of the Kurram force, Lieutenant-General Stewart, Multan force, and Major-General Biddulph, Quetta force. We have been taken not a little by surprise that Sir Neville Chamberlain is not included in this programme. He is one of the few Indian officers, who is thoroughly acquainted with the position and peculiarities of the places and people the expeditionary force will visit. It is said that the state of his health prevents him from assuming active work of this kind. If this is really the case, it is a misfortune. The above list of the forces is, however, not complete. The Peshwar Force is not yet thoroughly organized. It is believed that the Divisions will be further strengthened before active operations commence.

Ali Musjid will be the first point of attack. The Amir of Kabul is greatly strengthening that position. According to the *Civil and Military Gezette*, Yakub Khan has been released and sent to command at Candahar. The Kurram Valley and Ali Musjid have been strongly reinforced by the Amir's troops. The arrears of pay due to the troops have been paid up with three months' advance added. The Khybirees and the Pass Afridis are on our side, and the Amir is reported to have sent troops to chastise them. The *Englishman* received a telegram from Peshwar dated the 9th instant to the following effect: "The different tribes who had assembled around Ali Musjid are dispersing owing to want of food. Heavy firing has been heard in the Pass at noon to-day. The cause is unknown." The *Times of India's* Rawul Pindi correspondent writes:—"Most military men seem to think that it would be highly impolitic and injudicious for the campaign to be commenced with a lesser number than 50,000 troops, which number would render the possibility of our arms meeting with a reverse or even a partial check impossible. This is of the utmost importance, as the first disaster in Afghanistan would in all probability be the signal for disturbances in this country, which the disaffected and ambitious spirits amongst the Natives would not be slow to incite, allured with the hope of profiting by the loot which success would ensure to them." The Simla correspondent of the above paper has the following:

An immediate movement upon Afghanistan is improbable. The Amir will be given every opportunity of making ample amends. Whatever may happen, the Government are preparing thoroughly and actively for the worst, and are loyally determined to retrieve the honour and maintain the interests of the Indian Empire.

Whether the Amir may repent or not they have resolved to secure a permanent position behind Kandahar, which will be garrisoned in cantonment.

The unanimous feeling of the military classes here, however, insists that our interests demand an occupation of some kind, and if negotiations really come to nothing, an advance will probably be made from Quetta.

Thus matters stand now with regard to the Kabul expedition.

II.

It is too late now to consider the *rationale* of the proposed expedition. The die has been cast, and the Government cannot recede. It is a pity that the Mission was deputed to Kabul without a full preparation on our part for meeting a reverse. The Government of India could not but be well aware of the temper and attitude of the Amir towards us. The collapse of the Peshwar Conference was a sufficient indication of both. If the Mission was hastened by the news of the secret Mission of Russia to the Court of the Amir, it was haste but not good speed. Unless the Government was prepared to follow up the Mission with an immediate and effective armed demonstration, it should not have deputed the embassy. The Amir it was well known was not disposed to cultivate friendly intercourse with us. It could not be said that the fault was the Amir's. As in the case of Dost Mahomed so in that of Shere Ali, our short-sightedness, over-caution and mistrustfulness have been the cause of the alienation of Kabul from us. The Dost to the last clung to the British Government. But how was he treated? Before Mahomed Shah had advanced upon Herat, Mr. McNeill, the British Minister at the Court of Teheran, well acquainted with the ambitious projects of the Persian monarch, had earnestly pressed upon the attention of the British Government the expediency of some counteracting movement in the country between Persia and Hindostan. And when it was known to Mr. M'Neill that Lord Auckland had despatched Captain Burnes upon a mission to the Court of Dost Mahomed, he wrote a long confidential letter to that officer, setting forth the advantages of subsidising the Amir, and placing both Herat and Candahar under his rule. The letter was dated March 13th, 1837. "I sincerely wish," wrote Mr. M'Neill, "if the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan and

you come to a good understanding, that he were in possession of both Candahar and Herat." And again, in the same communication, he wrote more explicitly: "Dost Mahomed Khan, with a little aid from us, could be put in possession of both Candahar and Herat. I anxiously hope that aid will not be withheld. A loan of money would possibly enable him to do this, and would give us a great hold upon him. He ought to be precluded from receiving any other foreign representative or agent of any kind at his Court, and should agree to transact all business with foreign representative or agent of any kind at his Court, and should agree to transact all business with foreign powers through the British agent. Unless something of this kind should be done, we shall never be secure; and until Dost Mahomed Khan or some other Afghan shall have got both Candahar and Herat into his hands, our position here must continue to be a false one." The result of Mr. McNeill's advice was the deputation of Captain Burnes as the British envoy to the Court of Kabul, but his powers were so limited, that, says Sir William Kaye, although he was profuse in his expressions of sympathy, he had not the authority to offer susbtantial assistance; and when he ventured to exceed the instructions of his Government, he was severely censured for his unauthorised proceedings. Burnes asked everything; and promised nothing. He was tied hand and foot. He had no power to treat with Dost Mahomed. All that he could do was to demand on one hand and refuse on the other. He talked about the friendship of the British Government. Dost Mahomed asked for some proof of it; and no proof was forthcoming. "Our government," wrote Burnes, "would do nothing; but the Secretary of the Russian Legation came with the most direct offers of assistance and money, and as I had no power to counteract him by a similar offer, and got wigged for talking of it at a time when it would have been merely a dead letter to say Afghanistan was under our protection, I was obliged of course to give in." No wonder that the mission of Captain Burnes failed. Like Dost Mahomed Shere Ali had besought the substantial assistance of the British Government. Literally he laid himself at the feet of Lord Mayo at Umballa in 1869, but no attention was paid to his solicitations. He was loaded with presents and sweet words, but these do not give security. He saw that the wave from the North was advancing, and that he was not strong enough to resist it. He was also embarrassed by domestic intrigues, and sought for the friendly co-operation of the British Government to put them down. But our Government gave no response to his appeal. On the contrary it pursued a policy, which was not consistent with the Amir's interests. It undertook the arbitration of the Seistan dispute, but the settlement did not give him satisfaction. When Yakub Khan, his eldest son, rose in rebellion against him, and the Amir took him a captive, our Government addressed His Highness a letter of remonstrance. The occupation of Khelat by our Government was again in violation of the good understanding subsisting between the two Powers. Then the Amir saw what was the practical significance of the friendship of the British Government to the Sultan of Turkey. Next came the Pelly Mission. If the objects of that Mission have been correctly set forth, it was evident that the Amir could not agree to the proposals of our Government, for they amounted to nothing less than the practical occupation of Kabul by our Government. Thus was the Amir alienated from us. It is therefore no wonder that he should fall into the hands of the Russians. As usual our Government has at the eleventh hour awakened to the gravity of its situation. For the ill-success of our policy towards Kabul the Home Government we think is mainly responsible. The present movement is also due to its influence. It would seem as if Lord Beaconsfield is going to transfer England's quarrel with Russia from Europe to Asia. In Europe England was not free in her actions. She must conform to the wishes of the comity of nations. Russia had the sympathy of Germany, and Bismarck holds the balance of power in Europe. In Asia England has no rival. She is at liberty to pursue any action which may suit her own interests. She knows well that some day there will be a row between her and Russia on the soil of Asia, and she is apparently bent to take time by the forelock. All on a sudden the *furore* against Russia has manifested itself in England. With a singular unanimity has the English Press raised the cry of advance against Affghansthan. Even the pro-Russian journals such as the *Daily News* have thrown in their weight into the balance. Lord Beaconsfield has thus touched the right chord of English feeling by meditating his campaign against Affghansthan and necessarily against Russia in Asia. It is not yet certain whether Russia will fight for Affghansthan. That she is intriguing with the Amir is perhaps beyond doubt, but Russia is now exhausted both in men and money, and if she finds that the British flag is in the ascendant, as usual she will take down her hand and profess the utmost innocence. But England cannot go to this war without calculating this tremendous host. The question is how far is England prepared to go to war. If she throws the burden of the war upon India, she will simply kill her poor dependency. India has not the means to pay for the cost of this formidable war. She is already overburdened with taxes, and she cannot pay more. A greater disaster cannot therefore befall India than a protracted and desperate war with Kabul. According to a recent telegram the cabinet it would seem would throw only a portion of the cost of the war upon India, but what will be that portion? It cannot be denied that it is undertaken for the exigencies of England's European policy in the East, and we do not see any reason why any portion of the cost should be thrown upon India. If the object be to protect India from foreign aggression, surely our position at Peshwar is strong enough for all practical purposes, and if our Government be not strong enough to repel attacks fromPeshwar, it is doubtful whether it will strengthen its position by extending its frontier. The object is apparently not so much the protection of India as extension of English influence in Central Asia, in view to the new position which England has assumed in Asia Minor. The war is thus dictated by the European policy of England in the East, and its whole cost ought in equity to be borne by the English exchequer. Leaving aside the question of the cost, we are of opinion that the Government of India committed a gross blunder by fitting out the embassy to Kabul without making the fullest preparations to follow up failure by an armed intervention. A greater insult could not be offered to our Government than the rebuff given to our Mission. Its dignity must be vindicated at all risks. The Mission we repeat was fitted out too soon. It was despatched at a time when war was practically impossible. In the bitter cold of winter our troops could not be expected to carry on a successful war in the mountain passes of Affghansthan. Then the moment forthe blow was lost when the Mission was refused passage at Ali Mu-jid. If our troops could have struck the blow at that critical time, the moral effect would have been tremendous. There is much in the first success in a movement like this. But our Embassy was not strongly armed. If the members of the Mission were not personally chastised, the forbearance was due entirely to the good nature and genorosity of the commandant of the Fort. The Affghans are not noted for generosity of this kind. They are irascible and vindictive. That the commandant did not at once come into an armed collision with our Mission was entirely owing to his personal friendship with our officers. But if the blow is to be struck after all, we hope it will not be struck without the fullest preparations on our part. A second Affghan disaster would be a death-blow to the prestige of our Government both at home and abroad. We believe Lord Lytton seems to be fully conscious of this truth. In the meantime we may trust to the "chapter of accidents," which in the history of British progress in the East has done much for the extension and consolidation of British power. If the demonstration designed by our Government should alter the attitude of theAmir, and induce him to come to honorable terms with us, the war might be averted. We hope the weapons of diplomacy will not be abandoned in

the attempt to equip the armed battalians against Kabul.

III.

THE opinions of the Russian Press on the present crisis in Central Asia will doubtless be read with interest. The following translations from the Russian papers have been placed at our disposal:

The *Golos* No. 212 dated 2nd (14th) August, surmises that the British Mission to Cabul has been projected in consequence of the reception accorded to the Russian Mission by the Amir of Afghanistan. "Lord Lytton" it is said, "has perceived though somewhat tardily that affairs in "Afghanistan are taking a turn, which has evoked amongst "the Natives of India a variety of rumours, of course most "exaggerated regarding the possibility of the rapid appearance "of Russian troops at points separated by no considerable "distance from the Northern frontier of the Anglo-Indian "dominions." The article goes on to comment upon the "stubborn silence" preserved previous to and during the Congress, both by the British Press and Ministry, in regard to Russian movement in Turkestan, and ascribes that silence to a desire not to alarm the English public by news which would certainly have diminished the elation produced by Lord Beaconfield's "victories" at the Congress. The measures taken by Russia in Central Asia are declared to have been caused by the Anglo-Turkish convention and to have had as their object the reduction to a minimum of the inconveniences produced thereby. The "natural consequence" of the Berlin treaty is said to be" the adoption by the Russian Government of an entirely "new attitude with regard to matters in Central Asia, based upon the fact that henceforward in the event of an always possible collision with Turkey, Russia will have, simultaneously, an armed meeting with England and consequently that Russia must perforce do all in her power to convert into a vulnerable point the northern frontier of the Anglo-Indian dominions."

The *Novæ Vremyas* No. 872, dated 3rd (15th) August says that inaction on the part of Russia is impossible in view of the assumption by England of the protectorate over Asia Minor. Hence the movements of Russian troops in Central Asia, and the despatch of a Mission to Cabul, with the probable object of convincing Sherali Khan that Russia has no desire to carry on war against him." Badakshan and Shigvan are described as belonging neither *dejure* nor *de facto* to Sher Ali, and their occupation by Russia is always feasible should the necessity arise if England endeavours to incite the Chinese to occupy Badakshan and the entire upper waters of the Amu-Daryas.

The *Russki Mir* No. 211 dated 5th (17th) August quoting from the *Agence Generale Russe*, says that the recent movements of Russian troops in Central Asia refers to a time when it was justified by the necessity which existed for Russia taking measures of legitimate protection, in view of the military preparations of England. That necessity passed away, together with the causes which produced it, from the time of the Congress at Berlin.

Referring to the Enquiry alleged to have been made by the English Government from that of Russia in regard to the objects of the expedition which has been despatched towards the frontiers of Afghanistan the *Novoe Vremya*, No. 874 dated 5th (17th) August, remarks:

By undertaking the protection of the Turks and opposing the freedom of the Christians in the Balkan Peninsula, England has created for herself in the future a mass of most serious complications, to one of which we now desire to direct attention.

Many persons assert that a campaign to India from Central Asia belongs to the number of political chimeras. . . . But this is a decided mistake. It is quite true that neither our Government nor our public desire to carry into effect a campaign to India and for a very simple reason viz., that the dominion of the English in India is from a political point of view, more beneficial to us than that of despotic Native rulers. But if England, led on by her capacity for intrigue does not arrest the policy of Messers Beaconsfield Salisbury &co. then what now appears a chimera will become a reality. We have the most positive proof in support of the fact that a campaign to India is possible. Thoughtful military authorities acquainted with the military position of our Asiatic border provinces find no insurmountable obstacles to the accomplishment of this compaign. That two obstacles exist we are well aware, the first consists in the very considerable difficulty which attends a march across steppes and mountain ranges. This however is not absolute, and can in reality be overcome as is clearly proved by the Khivan campaign in 1873, and the crossing of the Balkans in 1877. The former extended over a vast distance of more than a thousand verats while the crossing of the Balkans in the month of December may, in point of difficulty be fairly compared with the crossing of any Asiatic range in the months of July or August the latter starting from a far more elevated base. The second obstacle consists in the small number of troops available in our Central Asiatic border provinces but this is only temporary. It will be long before we shall have 150,000 men with 250 guns for future military operations in Central Asia, and that without in any way weakening our military forces in Europe. In connection with this it must be remarked that the question of railway extension to Tashkend and Samarcand will in all probability now rank amongst Imperial measures of primary importances, so that perhaps some years hence we shall have a railroad to Central Asia. Speaking generally from a purely military point of view a campaign to India is feasible and strategicalcombinations provided that political affairs are carried on in a certain way can lead to probable success. The results of the Crimean war compelled us to strengthen our position in the valley of the Syr Darya to occupy the lower course of the Amu-Darya and to take up a strong position on the South West coast of the Caspian Sea. It may be predicted that the political circumstances of the present time and the relations of England towards us will compel us to act with similar energy in our further proceedings in Central Asia. The force of circumstances defied human calculations and every thing points to the conclussion that our onward movement into the heart of Central Asia is the result of irrisistible political circumstances and that it had not yet attained its complete development. There is reason to suppose that the limit of our movement southwords will before long be the range of the Hindoo Kush, and that after some ten years the frontier of our Asitic border provinces will abut on the frontiers

of British India. This will be an event of world-wide importances and the consequence of this meeting will unconditionally depend upon England.

The *Novoe Vremya*, No. 876, dated 7th (19th) August has the following article on the subject of affairs in Central Asia :—

On the policy of England movements more and more often recur, when Cyprus, the Dardanelles, Roumelia, and other precious stones in the future ducal coronet of Beaconsfield are forgotten, and the attention of the public is utterly engrossed in the subject of the northern frontiers of British dominion in India. The concentration and somewhat onward movements of Russian troops in the direction of these frontiers had already produced a clamour but the statesmen of England succeeded in quieting their fellow citizens by telling them of the insignificant numbers of the force and of the difficulties before it in the persons of the Khans, great and small who receive from England considerable subsidies and therefore, it is said, constitute a portion of England's defence against Russian attacks.

These fears had scarcely been removed when tidings were received that one of our well-known agents in the East, M. Abramoff was quietly making his way to one of the recipients of England's subsidies the Amir of Cabul, with whom he was openly carrying on negotiations. Cabul is the open door to the Punjab and by entering that door and securing the defiles of Afghanistan, Russia obtains the easy possibility of appearing in the unprotected valleys of the Indus and the Ganges.

The successful Mission of Abramoff is opening the eyes of the British public to the real danger which threatens India, in the event of a rupture between England and Russia. The existence of this danger must inevitably strengthen the hands of the Parliamentary opposition, and hence the Beaconsfield cabinet with a view to self-preservation will be compelled to take the most energetic and decided measures, in order to paralyze Russian diplomatic successes on the frontier of India. With the energy of British Agents we are already sufficiently acquainted and we feel with sufficient acuteness the fruits of their fertility of resources, slyness and audacious cunning. We know already that English diplomats never enter the lists, except in full armour; with them a deplomatic note is followed up by money, ships, troops and Agents who are thoroughly acquainted with any given question. In a word we must recognize the fact that we have to contend against an undeniable capacity for understanding how to make timely use of all possible means towards victory and, farther, against knowledge and power. Our diplomatic success in Turkey during the latter months of the life of Abdul Aziz resulted in his deposition from the throne, while the remarkable success of Baron Kaulbars in concluding a treaty with Yakub Beg terminated in a revolt in East Turkistan, and in the repulsion of the Amir, who was sincerely attached to the interests of Russian policy. These two facts of very recent occurrence are sufficient to show, on the one hand, that England stands on no ceremony in the choice of means wherewith to paralyze Russian diplomatic successes and on the other, that our capacity for initiation is greater than that for completion. The voluminous history of the past few years affords us a multitude of facts in support of this conclusion and we have overgrown familiar with the sight of the germ of probable success developing into a miserable failure. God grant that this may not happen with our successful mission to Cabul.

Taught by a long and altogether unfortunate experience Russian diplomacy will not of course rest satisfied with the paper successes of Mr. Abramof but, taking advantage of the example set by them who have been more successful in policy than ourselves will understand how to place those successes on a durable basis. There need be no hesitation in the selection of means to this end. The Khanates are despots, Nomads, and mountaineers supported by the influence of a neighbouring power, not so much by direct action upon their peculiar interest, as by the skill of the diplomat and by the might of his words, backed up by the near proximity of bayonets and cannon. Thus, in view of the success of M. Abramoff's Mission to Cabul, and apparently of similar impending attempts to other Khanates it is imperative that Russia should forestall every effort on the part of the English to over-reach us, and should summon to the sphere of action all persons who have displayed their knowledge of the country, their capacity for dealing with local magnate and their energy in upholding amongst them the interests of Russian policy. From this point of view we would invite attention, for instance, to the fact that Baron Kalbars, the first explorer of the bed of the Amudarya, is commanding the divisional staff at Burgas, and is not found in the van of the pioneering force now marching along the course of the above mentioned, river &c., amongst the English are to be found dozens of persons with a special knowledge of Central Asia, and clearly we ought not to neglect the few solitary individuals who possess such knowledge amongst ourselves. It is also indispensable for us, with out loss of time, to follow up our diplomatic utterance by the concentration and advance of Russian columns. In that case the local staff ought to be completely subordinate to diplomatic requirements, since the present is not a time of war while the guarantees of our military successes are in the womb of futurity. We have heard more than once, that the absence of definition, in regard to the functions of the various branches of our administration, not unfrequently hinders the introduction of that regularity which is desirable in our relations in Central Asia. Our policy in Central Asia is guided, partly by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and partly by the Local Governor-General, who is subordinate to the Minister for war. Cases as we are aware have happened in which one and the same matter has been entrusted by both Ministers to two different individuals, acting independently and even unacquainted with each other, with the usual result of disappointing expectations. The greatest success has always attended military diplomats, since the Foreign Minister could not lay his hand upon persons with a knowledge of Central Asia equal to that possessed by several officers of the general staff. But those of the latter who have already shown their diplomatic capacity, in Central Asia might, if only temporarily be attached to the military for Foreign Affairs, and, freed from any local control might conduct Russia to the limit of her successes in the East. The Local military authority should divest itself of the overburdensome weight of diplomacy, and should occupy itself with its own especial work, bringing it into harmony with political requirements, We are of opinion that it is only by means of the precautions above enumerated that we can preserve our success in Central Asia and defend it in spite of our adroit sagacious, and omniscient enemies."

If Russian opinion is to be measured by the utterances of the Russian Press, Russia it would seem means to assist the Amir in resisting our troops. But as we have said Russian policy cannot be trusted. The Russian Government it is said has declared that its late Mission to the Court of Kabul was "an act of courtesy." But behind this courtesy there may be some deep-laid plan of diplomacy. Russia may or may not show her hand as circumstances may suggest. But our Government cannot leave its great rival out of calculation. If it should undertake the war it should be prepared to fight both Affghansthan and Russia.

MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE ON THE INDIAN PEASANTRY.

IT ARGUES well that that angel of mercy, Miss Florence Nightingale, has taken up the cause of the Indian peasantry. Her benevolence, philanthropy, single-mindedness, and earnestness cannot fail to extort attention both in England and in this country to the deplorable condition of the Indian peasantry. Moved by the tales of the sufferings of the Indian peasantry as told in famine reports and in the report of the late Deccan Commission she has preached her sermon, and even the hardest heart cannot withstand her stirring appeal. Miss Nightingale's story is not one of imagination—she has culled her facts from official records and documents. She has not colored them in any way—she has presented them as she has gleaned them, and the picture is awfully harrowing. She begins by saying—"we do not care for the people of India." This she admits is a heavy indictment, but she adds, "how else account for the facts about to be given"? She continues: "Do we even care enough to know about their daily lives of lingering death from causes which we could so well remove? We have taken their lands and their rule and their rulers into our charge for State reasons of our own. Nay, the hour is coming, and even now is, when for 'State reasons' we are annexing, or preparing to annex, or to reorganise, or to 'protect'—by whatever name we call it—huge and immeasurable territories because they lie between us and them. But for them themselves—these patient, silent, toiling millions of India, who scarcely but for suffering know their right hand from their left, and yet who are so teachable, so ready to abide by law instead of resisting 'their enemy the law'—for their daily lives and deaths, we do *not* as a nation practically care. Or should we not as a nation practically rise *en masse* to see that the remediable things to which good public servants have so often vainly called attention *shall* be remedied? Have we no voice for these voiceless millions?" Yes, the English philanthropist has certainly a voice in the amelioration of the condition of the Indian peasantry; but how fitfully is that voice raised, and how ineffectual does it therefore prove? Miss Florence Nightingale accepts the current estimate of loss of life from the Madras Famine between five and six millions, and remarks: "These are figures, paper and print to us. How can we realise what the misery is of every one of those figures—a living soul, slowly starving to death?" After giving some harrowing famine pictures she goes on: "But what is the grinding, chronic semi-starvation of every day in many places where what is called famine does not exist? In 1875-76 Mr. Robertson, the superintendent of Madras Government Farms, tells us. He was making an official tour through Coimbatore; and writes his report without any reference to the famine since fallen upon us, but not then expected. The condition of the ryots in Coimbatore, he says, was so bad that had they and their families lived in the same '*luxury* as the prisoners in the gaol of Coimbatore, they would about eat all their produce, and there would be nothing left for rent.' These unhappy ryots are landholders under ryotwari tenure; that is, holding land direct from Government. There are 215,207 holdings in Coimbatore, the average holding is about twelve acres. Cotton is grown, not because it is profitable, but because, as they can't *eat* cotton, it goes to pay the rent. If they grew grain, which pays better, they would eat it. They have but two meals daily and of the coarsest food. Yet Coimbatore is on a railway, but unirrigated. The ryots are all in the clutch of the money-lender. There are about 100,000 agricultural labourers in the district of Coimbatore; 'their condition is a degree worse than that of the small ryots' Miss Nightingale next turns to the Bombay Deccan. "Here," she says, "almost every man has a small holding of land; say, he has a holding of twenty-eight acres and a family of six persons; though they cultivate the land themselves they can scarcely live upon the land; their very salt is heavily taxed; they are bound hand and foot in the grasp of the money-lender. He can sell them up, land and everything they possess, even to the honour of wife and daughter." She is not quite happy in her illustration of the condition of the peasantry of Bengal, for it cannot be denied that notwithstanding much individual suffering here and there, there has been marked improvement of late years. In other parts of India there is more or less the same dead level of suffering.

Miss Nightingale thus classifies the causes of the present deplorable condition of the Indian peasantry :

I. The great question of money-lending, which overshadows all.

II. Water: if we had given them water, should we not have to give them bread? Water: including—*a*, irrigation; *b* cheap canal communications; *c*, improved methods of agriculture; *d*, forest plantations.

III. Systems of Representation, by which the people may virtually rate themselves according to the surveys of what is wanted, and spend the money locally under the elected District Committee's orders; including—*a*, municipalities; *b*, publicity, or some method of giving the people a voice.

The fair champion of the Indian peasant is right enough in the main in analysing the causes of his depressed condition, but she has not touched upon one principal cause—the land assessment, and the land-tenure. It is the crushing land-system which has ground down the ryot. He cannot lift his head and rid himself of the soucar. If the Bengal ryot is now better off than before, it is because the land settlement here favours the creation of private property in the land without constant and harassing interference of the superior holder. Miss Nightingale successfully disposes of the charge of unthriftiness against the Indian peasant. She says: "It is said that *thrift* is what must save the Indian ryot. We have heard of the horse being made to live (or die) on a straw a day, but we do not know that we ever heard before that the horse ought to exercise 'thrift' and save his one straw a day. Yet this is what it appears the country ryot has actually done. (He justified the Secretary of State and died.) There is so little danger of pauperisation that, in the Madras famine, for one who threw himself without need on the relief measures ten died in silence, almost unknown to our masters (*not* like the wolf 'biting hard'.) There is such an element of endurance and heroism that, quite unknown to our masters, during the greatest starvation and the highest prices, the hoarded grain remained in the pits safe in the earth—none betrayed the secret hoarded, not to sell again at the highest famine prices, but for seed corn against another failure of crop. And not till the present crops were safe has it appeared. This was by the better class of farmers. What thrift, what endurance, have we Westerns compared with this? And we in the West preach thrift to them. The 'horse' literally 'saved' his one straw a day for his children's sowing. And they call these people not thrifty. It is the very heroism of thrift. Compare the people of some of England's big towns, with their drunkenness, their vice and brutal crime, their reckless waste and unthrift, with the industrious peoples of India. Which is highest, even in the scale of civilisation? A question not to be asked." But what do the patience, prudence, and thriftiness of the Indian peasant avail? He tills the soil, but the produce goes to somebody else. He borrows to pay the heavy Government de-

mand and to maintain himself and his family, and the result is that his year's crops are hypothicated before hand." To our mind the real remedy would be to give to the ryot permanency of tenure at moderate assessment, and to supply him money on low rates of interest, and if these two advantages could be secured, the other works which Miss Nightingale recommends would then prove really beneficial, but not until then.

MR. GLADSTONE ON ENGLAND'S MISSION IN INDIA.

IN that grand oration—for it is not an article—which Mr. Gladstone has lately published on England's Mission, India naturally enough finds a prominent place. Talking of India he says: "Here we are travelling on a journey to which honour and duty inexorably bind us, but on a route which plainly leads into the unknown. As to the money tribute which, in the shape of interest on capital, or of remuneration for service we may be said to draw from India, it is but a third-rate factor in a question of overwhelming magnitude. Five or six millions a year are a large sum; yet they can count but for little to a country with an income of a thousand millions. But here is tutelage, unexampled in history. It embraces from one-fifth to one-sixth of the human race: the latest German reckonings of the population of the globe carrying it beyond fourteen hundred millions. Over this population and the vast territory it inhabits, we hold a dominion entirely uncontrolled, save by duty and by prudence, measured as we may choose to measure them. This dominion is *de jure* in the hands of a nation, whose numbers as compared with those of its Indian subjects, are one to seven, and whose seat is at the other end of the world; *de facto*, it is wielded by a handful of their agents, military and civil, who are not as one to three thousand of the peoples spread, as an ocean, in passive obedience around them." Such is the estimate Mr. Gladstone forms of England's responsibility to India. And how is the Indian empire of England governed? Mr. Gladstone says:

"Of the seventy thousand Anglo-Indians, not one except mere waifs and strays, strikes root in the country and all but a handful have their stay limited to a very brief term of years. At home still less provision is made for the adequate discharge of a gigantic duty. It depends upon a Cabinet which dreads nothing so much as the mention of an Indian question at its meetings; on a minister, who knows that the less his colleagues hear of his proceedings, the better they will be pleased; on a Council, which is not allowed to enter into his highest deliberations; and on a Parliament, supreme over them all, which cannot in its two Houses jointly muster one single score of persons, who have either a practical experience in the Government of India, or tolerable knowledge of its people or its history."

Mr. Gladstone compares England's dominion over India to the sovereignty of Rome over the Hellenic races, when their active powers had sunk below the level necessary for their independence. He pays a glowing tribute of respect to the memory of the East India Company. He writes:

"This astonishing fabric was in the main built up by a mercantile company, with secondary aid from the counsels and control of the Government, and under the guidance of the practical good sense which is so remarkable in our countrymen except when some peculiar Ate bewilders and misleads them. Its military system was proved, in the tremendous trial of 1857, to be more efficient, than that of the Home Government had been found on the outbreak of the Crimean War. The finance was sound; the debt moderate, as even when swollen after and through the Mutiny of 1857, it did not reach sixty millions; the code enlightened. The deadly error of the Afghan War, which, it is to be hoped, we are not now to repeat was the error of the Queen's Government. The company delivered India in 1844 from the flighty genuius of Lord Ellenborough, who lent to the ostentatious policy that has lately received, upon more dangerous grounds, a more serious development. The toleration they established was only too wide. They boldly gave education to the people. They established a free press half a century ago. They laid the foundations of the railway system. They discouraged to the best of their ability, aggression on the native princes, and on neighbouring territories. Their policy was in the best sense conservative; and, at the time when they handed over their high office to the Government, there was not a point in the whole of our case with India at which we could say they had neglected duty or precaution, or had either feigned or courted danger. Since that time also much good has been done; but the course of improvement has been continued, not initiated. Both before and after 1852, our rule, while it rested materially upon military power, was based morally upon its bounteous and beneficent and upon the sense of that operation which had been generated in the native mind."

We subscribe to every word in the above. How has India fared under the direct rule of the Crown? Mr. Gladstone thus answers the question:

Whether the general rules of prudence have been as well observed, whether the foundations are as safe now as they were then, is another matter. The questionable and precarious revenue from opium has been largely increased. The salt tax has been raised, and it is stated to amount to eighteen times the price of the article in Cheshire. Revenue is nearly stationary. The last quinquennium of trade does not exhabit an increase. The military expenditure reaches nearly twenty millions; and has the melancholy distinction of being probably the highest, except one, in the world. Not only has the debt been raised from 59,000,000*l.* to 130,000,000*l.*, but it is even contended that, if guarantees and direct charges are included, the total amount now reaches 234,000,000*l.* It is unquestionable that the aspect of Indian finance grows gloomier instead of brighter, and brings back to the minds of those few who care for past or future the declaration of Sir Robert Peel that, in the well-being of Indian finance, British finance had a substantial concern. Under these circumstances, it is that we cannot find a day for the discussion of the Indian Budget earlier than August 13, when the House of Commons has already sat for seven months, and when the exigency of an important division on the subject can rally to their places no more than seventy-nine members. And this, too, in the year which has seen opened, without the slightest examination of the grave and manifold consequences certain to ensue, the pretentious scheme for introducing our Indian army into European warfare; and which at nearly the same date, has witnessed the most deplorable and senseless measure of retrogression that marks our recent annals in the extinction, at a day's notice and with closed doors, of the liberty of the Indian Vernacular Press.

Pithy but just. Now, what should be the future policy of England towards India? Mr. Gladstone thus unbosoms himself:

The truth as to India cannot too soon be understood. There are two policies, fundamentally different; and it is the wrong one that is now in favour. One of them treats India as a child treats a doll, and defends it against other children; the other places all its hopes for the permanence of our Indian rule in our good Government of India. Sound finance and moderate establishments, liberal extension of native privileges, and, not least of all, an unfailing regard to the sacredness of the pledge implied in privilege already given these acts of government will secure the way to prosperity, to contentment, and to confidence in India. Let us only make common cause with her people; let them feel that we are there to give more than we receive; that their interests are not traversed and frustrated by selfish aims of ours; that, if we are defending ourselves upon the line of the Hindoo Coosh, it is them and their interests that we are defending, even more and far more, than our own. Unless we can produce this conviction in the mind of India, in vain shall we lavish our thoughts and our recources upon a merely material defence. But we have produced it in a good degree already; and, although not by using her as a military tool for purposes not her own, and not by proscribing her free thought and speech, we may do it more, and do it thoroughly. Thus covered and protected in our rear, we shall find it a task well within our means to repel the foreign invader, come he when he will. Between the two methods of procedure there could be no competition, were we as a people free to give to the affairs of India anything like the attention which they demand, and which it may some day cost us many a fruitless pang never to have given.

We believe no right-thinking man can take exception to these generous sentiments of Mr. Gladstone. But the question is who is there to keep England's attention constantly to them. Mr. Gladstone himself admits that there are not a score of men in Parliament, who care for India. Indeed, there is on all sides listlessness and apathy about India. But it is in Mr. Gladstone's power to cure this disease. He commands a voice, which can reach not only the four corners of the United Kingdom but of the whole British empire throughout the world? Will he lift his voice—will he steadily work for the fulfilment of England's Mission, which he has described in his such eloquent and burning words? He has already done much for the Hellenic races of Europe, will he transfer his philanthropic zeal to the amelioration of the condition of the Hellenic races of Asia? We appeal to him in the name of the two hundred millions, whose cause he so earnestly pleads in the article under notice.

THE SURAT TRIALS—THEIR MORAL.

THE SURAT trials are over. What is their moral? The moral has more than one bearing. In the first place it is a vindication of British Law and Justice in India. In the second place it is a vindication of the liberty of the Native Press and the right of public meeting. In the third place it is an uncompromising conviction of the short-sightedness and high-handedness of the executive authorities of Bombay. In the fourth place it shews the danger of charging the Police with a political prosecution. A graver blunder the Bombay Government did not commit than the institution of this prosecution. As the *Times of India* says, "the Surat Riots appeared to open a splendid opportunity at once to verify the assertion of the Government of the real popularity of the License Tax with the masses, by proving in legal form that the agitation against it was far from being spontaneous, and was only the outcome of false misrepresentation and violent instigation, proceeding from the disaffected classes, and at the same time to establish the necessity of the Newspaper Gagging Act, and to justify by experience their disputed allegations of the disaffection of the Vernacular Press by exposing the actual connexion of real live proprietors and editors of vernacular papers with riot and sedition. With perversity which is mistaken for vigour, it was determined not to miss this opportunity of killing two such obnoxious birds with one stone; and we can easily image to ourselves Sir Richard Temple exultingly exclaiming with the religious fervour which is characteristic of him, "The Lord hath delivered them into our hands," and issuing orders for an uncompromising and unflinching prosecution. A leading Vakil of the local bar, a brace of editors, a representative of one of those hateful and troublesome Associations for the people's good, and two respectable tradesmen were the victims pounced upon in the name of law and justice." The reader is well acquainted with the details of the trial, with which we will not therefore trouble him. We give below the concluding portion of the judgment of Mr. Pollen, the Sessions Judge:

I have now completed my examination of all those witnesses who have given any direct evidence tending to inculpate the accused; and the result is that I find no clear or convincing evidence, sufficiently free from doubt or suspicion, to justify a criminal court in founding a conviction thereon; and a considerable portion of the evidence has been satisfactorily displaced by the counter-evidence adduced to meet it. Not one of the witnesses appeared to me to be the witness of truth. If there be any foundation of truth in the case, I think it is to be found in the statements made by the retracting witnesses in the magistrate's court. But seeing what manner of men these witnesses are, how readily they commit and lend themselves to perjury, and how difficult, not to say impossible, it is to separate what is true in their depositions from the mass of falsehood with which it is surrounded, I cannot think of relying upon their evidence to the extent of basing a conviction upon any part of it. I have no doubt that these men have been tampered with, and have therefore changed their statements and altered their tone; but at the same time, I am not free from the suspicion that they might have been induced to make their original statements, in whole or more probably in part, through fear of being themselves arrested and punished for taking part in the riots. Such being my view on the direct evidence, it becomes unnecessary to make any lengthened remarks on the second class of witnesses, namely, those who are called to prove formal matters, to confirm the other witnesses on minor points, or to contradict them. . . . . I am unable to concur in the views expressed and the arguments adduced as to the cause and origin of the riot by the learned counsel who led for the defence. I do not consider that the riot was a trifling affair, purely acciden al in its origin, or that the people who composed the mobs were preceeding quietly to the Castle in response to an invitation from Mr. Ollivant, Kollabhoy, and others. To my mind the mob was bent on mischief from the first. Nor can I concur with the learned counsel in the views he thought it his duty to express with regard to the behaviour and conduct of the European officers in this crisis. I avoid entering at length into the subject, for it appears to me that no good purpose would be served by discussing in this judgment the causes which led to, or the circum-tances which attended, the riot. . . . . I now come to my third and final division. In this class I have only included the witnesses connected with the Victoria Press and the newspaper articles which have been put in. In fact these articles in the *Gazerat Mittra* and the *Dashi Mittra* contained nothing in the

slightest degree objectionable, and nothing that could be twisted by the utmost ingenuity into a ground of accusation against the writers. Other articles, however, have been admitted, of which the manuscript are not in the hand-writing of any of the accused. They were written by the witness Jaivatchram, a clever though unscrupulous youth of about 19 years. . . . . I find that they are written in the silly, fustian style that might be expected from a clever and conceited school-boy of nineteen. It is needless to say that these articles misrepresent the acts and intentions of Government; but I see nothing in them absolutely seditious, and I fail to discover in them any direct incitement or instigation to riot or other illegal measures. It is certain that the criticisms on Government measures, and the protests against oppressive legislation and unpopular taxation contained in the articles complained of are equalled in energy of language and vehemence of tone by the effusions which not unfrequently grace the pages of the leading English and Anglo-vernacular papers of this presidency. Several articles from a monthly magazine called the *Suatantrata* were tendered in evidence, and a good deal of evidence was taken with the object of laying a foundation for their reception, I finally decline to admit them, being of opinion that the prosecution had failed sufficiently to establish the connection of the accused with the articles sought to be used against them. On the whole, I am of opinion that the evidence fails to bring home to any of the accused any of the offences with which they stand charged; and I must therefore find the first, second, and fourth points in the negative. In concluding my judgment, I cannot forbear to notice with approval the extreme fairness and impartiality with which the learned counsel for the prosecution conducted his case throughout. The assessors, too have listened to the evidence with marked patience, and have given elaborate opinions, fortified by well-expressed and substantial reasons. The court concurring with the assessors, finds that the accused are not guilty of the offences specified in the charge, and directs that they be released from custody.

Such is the impartial verdict of a British Judge after a long and patient trial. Both sides were strongly represented by counsel; there was not a point which remained untouched; the prosecution had the weight and authority of Government; the defence was necessarily at a great disadvantage; there was a reign of terror in Surat, but all the defendants have come out unscathed. But in the meantime the editor defendants had suffered incarceration for nearly three months, bail being refused by both Magistrate and Judge. The *Times of India* remarks: "We say it unhesitatingly, though we say it with some shame and sorrow, that it covers with indelible disgrace everybody connected with a most cruel, iniquitous, and oppressive persecution of six peaceful and respectable citizens of Surat. From honourable Councillors down to the infamous Motilal and his myrmidons, all must share the heavy responsibility of this miserable fiasco. The initial blame rests indubitably on the heads of the Government and the executive authorities of Surat, who could not possibly understand that the riots, which disturbed for about a couple of hours the peace of that city, could ever be incited by the irritation and despair occasioned by the imposition of oppressive and unequal taxation, municipal and imperial, on an impoverished population followed up by inquisitorial proceedings organized with wonderful ingenuity" The prisoners have been acquitted, but what reparation will they get for the indignity, harassment and loss of health and fortune, which they have sustained? As our Bombay contemporary remarks: "A verdict of honourable acquittal has thus vindicated the reputations of the accused gentlemen; we are alas! unable to say as much for their health and fortunes. They quit the dock with their honour as unsullied and bright, as when they entered it; but it will be a lasting disgrace to all concerned in this State persecution, chiefly those in high places, who ought to have known that the course they adopted to justify a preconceived conclusion could scarcely lead to any other result, that these unfortunate men leave prison, broken in health and ruined in fortune. It will afford little consolation to the Councilors of Government that they have irretrievably lowered it in public esteem by refusing to produce Mr. Grey's report on Motilal, and the Judicial Head of the Department, which had the custody of that document, whoever he may be, humiliated himself and his Government by protecting Motilal's infamous character as "an affair of State!" The stigma of this discreditable persecution it will not be easy to remove. We would, however, fain advise Government to take warning in time, and would commend to their serious perusal the following memorable utterance of Lord Erskine; "Unjust prosecutions," he said in one of his most famous speeches, "lead to the ruin of all Governments. Whoever will look back to the history of the world in general, and of our own particular country, will be convinced that exactly as prosecutions have been cruel and oppressive, and maintained by inadequate and unrighteous evidence, in the same proportion and by the same means their authors have been destroyed instead of being supported by them; and, therefore, wishing as I sincerely do the preservation and prosperity of our happy constitution, I desire to enter my protest against its being supported by means that are likely to destroy it. Violent proceedings bring on the bitterness of retaliation, until all justice and moderation are trampled down and subverted." But the moral conviction of the Government is no compensation to the poor sufferers. At any rate the Government ought to reimburse them the costs of their defence. In good faith, in honor, and in equity it is bound to make this compensation. We would advise the unfortunate gentlemen concerned as well as the public associations in Bombay to make a representation to Government for this act of bare justice to them.

HOW OUR MONEY GOES!

THE petition to Parliament adopted at the Calcutta public meeting of March last laid much stress upon public works expenditure. In 1854 the Public Works department was organized by Lord Dalhousie. The administrative instinct of that great statesman perceived that the old plan of superintending public works was defective, and his Lordship accordingly devised the present system, consisting of two branches, the first including all imperial and provincial works, and the second the Guaranteed Railways. The department has since expanded into six branches, 1 Provincial Works, 2 Irrigation, 3 State Railways, 4 Guaranteed Railways, 5 Military Works, 6 Accounts Branch. The result as a matter of course has been considerable increase of expenditure. The following statement shews the increase of public works charges:

YEAR.	Works and repairs.	Establishments.	Total.	Percentage of cost of Establishments.
	£	£	£	£. s. d.
1861-62 ...	2,514,794	225,851	2,740,645	
1862-63 ...	2,656,393	740,266	3,396,659	9 6 9½
1863-64 ..	3,639,909	823,924	4,463,833	21 12 11
1864-65 ..	3 716 448	817,195	4,533,643	18 9 1½
1865-66 ...	3 634,765	906,541	4,591,306	18 0 6
1866-67 ...	4,144,782	897,042	5,041,824	19 14 10½
1867-68 ..	4 346,452	953,923	5,300,375	17 15 10
1868-69 .	4,849,202	1,012,450	5,861,652	17 19 11½
1869-70 ...	3,675,541	1,101,785	4,777,326	17 5 5½
1870-71 ...	2,825,298	1,013,202	3,838,500	23 1 3
1871-72 ...	2,889,297	961,039	3,850,336	26 7-11½
1872-73 ...	2,891,058	1,028,472	3,9181530	24 19 2¼
1873-74 ...	2,356,055	1,030,803	3,886,858	26 4 11
1874-75 ...	2,816.739	1,110,934	3,927.673	26 10 4¾
1875-76 ...	3,029,136	1,138,158	4.167.294	28 5 8½
1876-77 ..	2.832,533	1,050,605	3,883,198	27 6 5½
1877-78 ...	2,653,972	1,113,896	3,767,868	28 19 11½

It will be observed from the above that the establishment charges on account of public works have varied from 10 to nearly 29 per cent. of the total outlay. The growth of expenditure on establishments has been enormous since 1861-62, though the charges for works and repairs with the exception of a few years have not varied much. Thus a comparison of the charges for establishment for 1861-62 and 1877-78 shews an increase of about 20 per cent., more than the amount in the first mentioned year. More than a year ago Sir Andrew Clarke, the Public Works Minister, wrote a minute on public works expenditure. "My first impressions on arrival in India," says Sir Andrew Clarke, "were that the staff of engineers was redundant, and that the ratio of the cost of establishment to expenditure on actual works was excessive." After an experience of two years he says that "some special means should be adopted to induce or to force the retirement of at least 100 Engineers," and adds—"in fact I see no other alternative." In June last there was, it is stated, "a redundancy of 82 Engineer, in India and this excess was likely to be supplemented by the annual contingents from the colleges,—45 from Cooper's Hill, and 8 from the Thomason College at Roorkee. The Government made inquiries from the local administrations, but although it had, say, 135 officers to dispose of, it received applications for only 19, and of these it was likely that only 13 would ultimately be absorbed. Sir Andrew Clarke describes this position as "very serious." The local Governments have been urgent in their demand for relief of surplus officers. The correspondence on the subject has been published in the shape of a Parliamentary paper. We give the following extract from Sir Andrew Clarke's minute reviewing this correspondence. Sir Andrew says:

"By retaining on our lists the Engineers in excess of our requirements, we subject ourselves to great embarrassment. The Punjab Government has for a long time past been pressing upon the Government of India the necessity for reducing by the transfer of five executive engineers the excess of strength on the Provincial Establishment, and we have only been able to reply that in consequence of a similar excess existing almost throughout the whole of India, the transfers are impracticable. The Government of the North-Western Provinces has similarly named 11 engineers.

The Government of Bengal has just sent up a list of 32 engineers for transfer from the Irrigation Branch alone. From the Irrigation Branch of the North-Western Provinces I have had for some time before me a list of 16 engineers named for transfer. Of course, with an excess everywhere, it has been impossible to carry out the transfers. The Bengal Government presses upon us the argument 'The Lieutenant-Governor is confident that the Government of India will at once see the justice of this request, as it is plain that now that Bengal has to meet the whole charge for interest and working expenses on its irrigation works, it ought not to have to pay for a single officer who is not really required. If it is necessary to keep these officers on in Bengal for the present, it should be as a charge on Imperial revenue.' The same argument may be urged by the Irrigation Branch of the North-Western Provinces. It is obviously impossible to accept this proposal, for it would amount to the retention of a large number of officers on full pay and allowances with absolutely no work to do. The Railway Branch has already an excess of 18 engineers. In the Military Works Branch it is intended to employ as soon as possible Royal Engineer officers only."

Now, we ask, is it right or just that the local Governments should be charged with officers, for whom there is no work? Why should not these officers be abolished altogether? The public works charges have been localized, and yet the local Governments are handicapped in regard to expenditure. What remedy did Sir Andrew Clarke propose to meet this complaint of the local Governments? He wrote:

"The position is very serious, and it is obvious to me that on the above grounds only something must be done, and that at once. In the first place, I would at once address the Secretary of State, asking him to keep back for the present the supply of assistant engineers from Cooper's Hill. Appointments as assistant engineers on Rupees 350 per mensem are guaranteed to them, and must of course be given, but they should be kept in Europe for another term, and detached to visit and prepare notes and reports of works in progress, and possibly employed on them. If the Secretary of State could in any way manage this, it would to some extent be a relief to us, and it would moreover make them more valuable servants of Government when they do come to India, as it would give them some practical knowledge of their profession, and above all, of how to arrange and control labour, the absence of which forms the subject of frequent comment in the reports submitted on this class of engineers."

The Secretary of State has adopted the suggestion of Sir Andrew Clarke, which was backed by the Government of India, but what is the practical effect of it? Will the detention of a few passed Students of Cooper's Hill College simplify the situation so graphically depicted by Sir Andrew Clarke? The saving thus effected will be but a drop in the ocean. The surplus engineers are eating up the resources of the Local Governments; there is not sufficient work for them; and new supplies will come yearly. This is the way our money goes. We had the Public Works Committee lately appointed by Parliament, but it did not report when Parliament was prorogued. In the meantime money is wasted. If the Government is really in earnest about economy, it ought not to lose time in revising the Public Works Establishments and abolishing the Cooper's Hill College. Adverting to this College Sir Andrew Clarke says:

"Those from Cooper's Hill, though perhaps possessed of a higher general education and on the average of a higher social status, have really no practical knowledge of their profession, and for some time after joining the

department are of very little use, indeed." He thus refers to the Thomason College: "The Thomason College students start with the advantage of a knowledge of the language and the ways of the people: their book knowledge is excellent and sufficient, and they have displayed an actual superiority in the way of surveying and levelling." On the other hand, the Cooper's Hill men are at once posted to a higher grade, *viz.*, 2nd Assistant Engineer, which implies higher excellence and higher pay, but for want of practical experience they do not, as remarked by Sir Andrew Clarke, command the higher excellence, but they draw the higher pay. Sir Andrew Clarke adds:—"I must say that I personally have never approved of the institution of a special Civil Engineering College in England for the supply of Engineers to the Public Works Department, *and I cannot find that the previous opinion of the Government of India was ever asked for.*"

And yet the Government of India has not the courage to urge the abolition of the Cooper's Hill College.

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

(COMMUNICATED.)

It would almost seem time for the Press to take up the question of the *personnel* of the Financial Department of the Government of India. A catastrophe, unsurpassed for gravity in the history of finance, compelled attention to the state of the Indian Exchequer about eighteen years ago, and a Financier of undoubtedly first class ability was urgently sent out from England with the very fullest powers. What Mr. Wilson did is too well-known; and how all classes, high and low, submitted to the proceedings initiated by him, enduring heavy taxation without a murmur, because of the sense they had of his rare capacity and true honesty of purpose, is equally well understood. The appointment was a very highly paid one. This too was accepted; and the result of Mr. Wilson's labors fully justified the Government in bestowing, and the tax-payers in acquiescing in, the large additional charge on the public purse. Almost immediately following Mr. Wilson's advent other expensive changes were made in the personnel of the Department; and the action of the Government in creating a separate and well-trained staff to assist an able and a highly paid official placed at the head of the Treasury was also universally admitted to be a step in the right direction, notwithstanding the large increase of expense; though, however, there were not a few, who believed that there were ways of improving the power of the Department without anything like the additional heavy charge to which the State was committed. But, as before remarked, no voice was raised, no murmur heard, against a measure which gave us a thoroughly qualified Finance Minister with a thoroughly qualified establishment. The establishment thus formed was recruited by selection, from the topmost ministerial ranks of the existing account offices, of officers who had brought themselves to conspicuous notice, and who were possessed of an experience of rare value in financial matters. Many of them had the past history of the Treasury systems at fingers ends, and cautiously comparing the new measures with those which had existed, were able to check the introduction of rules and forms that seemed to allow too great and sudden latitude of administration. To the officers so selected for their experience and ability, were added others by nomination who, being untried men, were required to pass examinations, which proved not only their general good education but also their special acquaintance with the subjects, with which they would have to deal in their public life. And it must not be supposed that the Government was at all satisfied with applying a mere elementary and simple departmental test. The aspirants for employment in the new Financial Department of the Government of India were not expected to be able to "count" merely or to give only a vague idea of political economy. All the most important text-books were named to them as fit subjects for study; and with algebraic equations and the discourses of Mr. Mill, the tender youths filled their understandings; some bold spirits, even at that early stage of their public life, looking at the Finance Ministership as eaglets at the ram to which they would one day soar, dared even dispute the conclusions of Mr. Mill and propounded their own views of political economy.

It is impossible to dispute the wisdom of the Government in taking the course they thus did to put the Financial Department on a footing above contempt. The Finance Minister enjoyed the perfect confidence of the public, and the seniors of the new corps of subordinate officers found themselves at once placed in positions of the highest responsibility from which they were promised advancement to all but the very highest posts of Comptroller General and Financial Secretary, and even to those posts if they could show adequate qualification. Thus it was that the high local appointments of Deputy Accountant-General immediately below those of Accountant-General and of Deputy Accountant-General in independent charge in smaller provinces such as Burmah, the Central Provinces &c., were held by men who then and since then have discharged the duties of their respective offices with that care and ability, which was expected of them and which justified their first appointment made after the most careful enquiry and consideration. All this however seems now changed. The "service" has annexed the highly-paid appointment of Finance Minister without exhibiting any of that special knowledge, which the high emolument allowed for that office was designed to secure. And whether wisdom has altogether departed from the Governor-General in Council or not we dare not say, but certain it is that the lower appointments of Accountants-General are also now being rapidly so annexed, and the specially trained men everywhere superseded by Assistant-Magistrates, Judges of Small Cause Courts and the like, without any reference to special aptitude for finance, without the least previous training and without an atom of knowledge of their duties. The original policy of Government is thus being deliberately and steadily reversed. Special knowledge so much valued before is now ignored, and the Department is being flooded with men whom the higher salary perhaps the sole consideration, is bribing; for it is well known that the duties of an Accountant-General are by no means pleasant to men of the general service, who have any pretensions to ability; and while it is a pure extravagance to revert to the old high scale of pay for services in the Account Department, which, if properly understood, are by no means of a high order or call for the appointment of men of any great capacity, certain it is that the actual result is that the Department is again being represented by service men no better than those of former years, to whom the Treasury, as also the Superintendentship of Stamps and such other places, served as shelves for the calm enjoyment of their official life.

Is it possible that Lord Lytton, whose sagacious foreign policy marks him out as a statesman of no mean ability, will stand unmoved, whilst change of policy is working the ruin of the Financial Department? If under the very arrangements that are now being reverted to, that sagacious and admirable statesman Lord Dalhousie was led to commit the greatest—the *one* let us say—blunder of his administration under the guidance and solemn assurances of safety, of his Financial Secretary, Charles Allen, what but the same result must ensue from the present uprooting of schemes laid down by men whose plans and proceedings to this day elicit the approval of the public? The *Pall Mall Gazette* may well say "we have all ample means of observing how fast the financial administration of the country (India) is sinking into collapse." We recommend that authority to ask whether this disaster is at all likely to be averted by the present process of the destruction of the Temple, which has taken 21 years in construction and consolidation. If not in common justice to the officers who are being so cruelly superseded after promises most explicitly made and in the discharge of duties constantly approved still for the sake of public weal we would solicit Lord Lytton to enquire what advantage could possibly be gained or has at all been gained by the recent appointments to the office of Accountant-General N. W. P. and the Punjab or of the proposed one of Mr. Woodburn to Madras. How it is possible to justify these appointments it indeed, passes our understanding; and on public grounds of the highest importance therefore we draw His Excellency's attention to this matter. If Assistant Magistrates, who have never even been in charge of a Treasury, are better calculated to fill the office of Accountant-General than the departmental officers who have been under training for those appointments since 1857, then we say the whole cost of that training proves a sheer waste of money. The policy of 1857 was sound and remains sound; and the officers of 1857 were capable and remain capable; and the saying that only bad workmen quarrel with their tools remains also true. We are glad to learn that the matter is likely to be brought under the consideration of Parliament through Mr. Robert Lowe, for we do believe that the present course of action is enough to disorganize and dishearten the finest service in the world. May we venture to express a hope that Lord Lytton will anticipate Mr. Lowe by redressing the grievances, to which we have taken the liberty to call attention.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE RECEIVED yesterday the following telegram from Simla:

Nawab Gholam has received permission from Amir on 6th October to return and obtained also replies to the letters. The Maharaja of Alwar has offered to Government 150 camels and fifty men fully equipped and maintained at his own cost for service on frontier.

ALSO the following telegram:

Maharaja *Holkar on receiving with the insignia of the* order of the Indian Empire with which his Highness was invested by Sir Henry Daly on Dushara festival a letter bearing Her Majesty's sign manual has expressed to His Excellency the Viceroy his high appreciation of the honor. Maharaja says the high sentiments which Her Majesty's letter embodies are an assurance that our honor and interests will be promoted and defended under the protection of British Government for ever.

THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE gives the following latest news about the Kabul war:

The decision of the Government of India has at length been definitively fixed that, peaceful relations with the Ameer of Cabul can no longer be maintained.

Simla, 9th October.—At a Council held to-day, orders were passed for the assembling of a large army on the direct line of road to Cabul. Regiments from Lucknow and Jhansi have been warned to hold themselves in readiness to move. It is believed that 35,000 troops will shortly be concentrated under the Commander-in Chief personall, It is apprehended that the Ameer's disposition may precipitate a collision on the frontier, the 9th Lancers, 10th Hussars, 72nd Highlanders, 85th Light Infantry, 24th Native Infantry, and a strong additional force of Artillery are under orders of readiness.

THE PIONEER has received the following latest telegram from Mandalay:

Mandalay, 11th October.—The new Government has been unanimously recognised. The ministers and officials in the capital and the provinces are unchanged, the ministers' relations with the sovereign being modified in a constitutional direction. Reforms have been cheerfully accepted by the King under the Queen Dowager's and Buddhist tutors' advice.

OUR ALLAHABAD contemporary states that Saiad Iskandar Ali Mirza Sahib Bahadur, better known as "Sultan Sahib," one of the numerous sons of the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, has preferred a request to be attached to the staff of the general officer commanding the Afghanistan expeditionary force. Sultan Sahib it is said is an excellent horseman. He has been carefully educated in more important matters also by Mr. Arrow, the principal of Nizamat College. The *Pioneer* adds, "really if room can be found with our army for this fine young fellow, we do not see why he should not prove exceedingly useful, especially in connection with the Quartermaster General's Department." We believe many other scions of Native Princes and Sirdars would gladly volunteer their services for the coming Kabul war, if the Government would accept them. The Government will do well to encourage such aspirants.

WE ARE glad to notice the revival of the Bombay Association. We have received the report of the Association for the last three years in one volume. The retirement of Sir Mangledas Nathubhy and Mr. Nowrozejee Furdouji from the Association proved very nearly a deathblow to it, but thanks to the patriotism of Mr. Dinshaw Manockji Petit, Rao Saheb Vishwanath Mundalik, and Mr. Telang the Association has been again placed on a secure footing. Native Society in Bombay seems to be

torn by party squabbles, but we hope the leading men there will sink all personal differences for the sake of the common cause. The Bombay Association has done good work in its day, and if it be conducted in a proper spirit it may accomplish much more.

WE THANK Babu Hur Chunder Dutt of the Rambagan Dutt Family of this town for a copy of his new book, entitled "writings spiritual, moral and poetic." D. L. R. once called this family a "nest of singing birds," but for some reason or other the birds have now almost ceased to sing. Now and then we hear a few warbling notes. By far the sweetest voice of late years was that of Miss Toru Dutt, alas! now no more! Babu Hur Chunder Dutt's new book is a collection of his miscellaneous writings in prose and verse. Some of the pieces have great merits. Our author has an easy flowing style, not without elegance and sometimes not without warmth.

MR. DAMPIER is expected to be back in November next. Lord Ulick Browne then reverts to the Rajshaye Commissionership, and Mr. Wells becomes Magistrate and Collector of 24-Pergunnahs. On the return of Mr. Ravenshaw who is expected in December Mr. Pellew reverts to the Magistracy of Hooghly.

THE LAST annual report of the Aborigines Protection Society has the following reference to India:

The Committee have an increasing sense of the responsibility of our position as a nation in India. We are convinced that the best security for the stability of English rule in that country, and therefore for maintaining our influence in the East lies in a just and economical administration of the Government, in the admission of natives to a more important share of official employment, in reforming the land tenure, in establishing in the Presidency towns the germ of municipal institutions, in either abolishing or greatly reducing the salt-tax and in other measures of improvement which would tend to make the natives regard us in the light of friends and benefactors. We are glad to state that several influencial natives of India have lately joined the Society in order to assist it to give greater attention to Indian questions. The Committee emphatically deprecate the policy of the Vernacular Press Law, not only because it is unjust in itself, but also because it is calculated to drive discontent into secret channels.

We are glad to perceive that Mr. Dacosta is working in co-operation with this Society.

THE Government of Bengal has carried out its intention of appointing additional Munsifs. The Munsifs are divided into four grades: 1st grade on Rs. 400, 2nd on Rs. 300, 3rd on Rs. 250, and 4th on Rs. 200. The under-mentioned gentlemen have been appointed 4th grade Munsifs:

Mr. Rajkishen Sen, Barrister-at-law is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Tumlook in Midnapore.

Baboo Sree Gopal Chatterjee M.A. and B.L., is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Bagumgunge and Soodaram in Noakholly.

Baboo Kalidhone Chatterjee, B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Kalyganga in Dacca.

Baboo Anundo Nath Mozomdar, M.A. and B.L., is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Jungypore in Moorshedabad.

Baboo Shushe Bhoosun Chowdhry M.A., and B.L., is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Nemal in Midnapore.

Baboo Sarut Koomar Ghosal M.A. and B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Goalundo in Furreedpore.

Baboo Okhoykoomar Sen, B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moolsif of Monickgunge in Dacca.

Baboo Poorno Chunder Mitter, B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Putwakhali and Dakhin Shabazpore in Backergunge.

Baboo Opendro Nath Bose B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Nicklee in Mymensingh.

Baboo Jogendrolal Chowdhry L.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Brahminbaria in Tipperah.

Baboo Abinash Chunder Mookerjee M.A. and B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Khoolna in Jessore.

Baboo Russick Chunder Roy, B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Moolfutgunge in Furreedpore.

Baboo Tejchunder Mookerjee M.A. and B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Arrareah and the Sudder Station at Purneah.

Baboo Behary Lal Banerjee M.A. and B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Kooshtea in Nuddea.

Baboo Kedar Nath Roy M.A. and B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Barabari and Gyebanda in Rungpore.

Mr. Jogendro Nath Sirkar Barrister-at-law is appointed to be Bdditional Moonsif of Azimgunge and the Sudder Station of Moorshedabad.

Baboo Bepin Chunder Roy B.L. is appointed to be Additional Moonsif of Netrokona in Mymensingh.

The initial pay of the Munsif is thus assimilated to that of the Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector.

THE Resolution of the Lieutenant Governor reviewing the last annual report of the Burdwan Commissioner contains the following interesting remarks on manufactories and mines in the Burdwan Division:

The chief seats of the manufacture maintained by European capital are on the banks of the Hooghly, in the districts of Hooghly and Howrah; and the most important of these are the iron manufactures of Howrah, the jute and cotton mills of Bowreah and Fort Gloster, the paper mills of Bally, the jute mills of Champdani and the mills at Serampore and Gyretty. In Howrah alone there are seven dockyards, besides numerous yards for building country-boats; three jute mills, each with a capital of 10 to 15 lakhs, and working altogether about 800 looms; eleven large workshops, besides the railway works. Altogether some 10,000 people are believed to find work daily in the factories and workshops of the town. As a natural consequence, the jute mills are driving hand-made gunny out of the market, and the cotton mills are seriously affecting the weavers, unless where some local peculiarity of manufacture meets a special native demand. But apart from this decline of the native cotton manufactures there is still a large amount of indigenous manufacture. Throughout the district of Hooghly (the Collector writes) there are a large number of villages, each with a branch of industry peculiar to itself, but too insignificant to be separately deserving of notice, which jointly contribute to impart to the district a certain character of industrial prosperity. Thus the lac manufactories in Paramba and Sinabazar supply lac bangles to every part of Bengal; brass and pewter are made into domestic vessels in Bansberia, Khamarpare, and Shagunj; and paper is made by Mahomedans in many parts of the district.

The chief manufacture in the other districts of the division is silk. The past year was rather a better one for this industry than 1876-77. In Midnapore the Messrs. Watson and Messrs. Payen and Co. have extensive establishments, but no particulars are given of their working. In Burdwan a certain amount of revival was apparent both in the silk and tusser markets; but in Bankoora and Beerbhoom the industry is said to be declining.

The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to observe that the Collector of Burdwan is the only officer who has paid any proper attention to the orders of Government on last year's report, directing that special attention should be given in this report to the subject of the native cotton manufactures of the division. The weaving of ordinary cotton cloths has long been known to be declining, but the extent to which the finer qualities of hand-made stuffs are still in demand is a subject of much interest, on which little or no information is available. In Burdwan the Collector reports that the number of weavers is now 20 per cent less than it was five years ago, and that most of them are taking to agricultural and other pursuits.

The business done at the pottery works of Ranigunge belonging to Messrs. Burn and Company, is said to be rapidly extending. They employ now about 500 hands, and have charge contracts for drainage pipes, firebricks, flooring tiles, and stone-ware of sorts. The workmanship is said to be excellent. An interesting sketch is given by the sub-divisional officer of Ranigunge of the coal mines of his sub-division, from which it appears that the year under report has been one of renewed prosperity to this industry. Of the success of the Bengal iron-works, so far as the production of iron goes, the Lieutenant-Governor has satisfied himself by personal inspection. The Susunia stone quarries in Bankoora are said to be now turning out an admirable quality of hard stone.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR makes the following remarks on the working of the Mahomedan Marriage Registration Act:

The Mahammadan Marriage Registration Act I (B.C.) of 1876 has now been in force for more than two and a half years. By the beginning of the year under report, 77 offices had been opened in 14 districts, and by the end of the year there were 103 offices, though the Act was not extended to any fresh district during the year. The following statement shows the number of ceremonies registered in the last two years; but the total returns of the years cannot be compared, as the Act was only extended to six districts before the commencement of the year 1876-77,

	Marriages	Khula divorces.	Other divorces.	Total ceremonies.	Muhammadan population in the thanas in which the Act is in fo ce.
1876-77 ...	2,555	161	402	3,118	6,000,850
1877-78 ...	7,391	595	1,404	9,390	10,326,575

The only districts in which the Act appears to be at all popular are Chittagong and Rungpore. In these districts, with fourteen and fifteen offices respectively, there were registered during the past year 2,973 and 2,206 ceremonies, or more than half the total for the 14 districts in which the Act was in force. In Backergunge only 211 ceremonies were registered among a Muhammadan population of 1,255,427, and in Furreedpore and Jessore only 105 and 46 ceremonies among populations of 863,053 and 312,974 respectively. From the reports received on the working of the Act in the districts to which it has been extended, it appears to be the general opinion of the district registrars that, unless registration of marriages and divorces is made compulsory, the provisions of the Act will only be made use of to a very limited extent. The Lieutenant-Governor is not, however, prepared to accept the recommendation of the district registrars. The success attained in two districts, which are in no way specially circumstanced, seems to the Lieutenant Governor to show that the provisions of the Act are not ill-adapted to meet the requirements of the Muhammadan population of Bengal. Prejudice and ignorance prevail widely amongst the lower classes of the Muhammadan population of the Eastern districts, and, together with the opposition of local Mollahs interested in the maintenance of the present state of things, militate, no doubt, against the rapid extension of registration, and it may possibly be some years before the provisions of the Act are generally made use of; but the Lieutenant Governor prefers waiting until such time as the people voluntarily avail themselves of them, to exciting the widespread opposition which he believes would be the result at present of making the Act compulsory.

We concur.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	A.	P
Secretary, Baroda, State Library	6	10	0
Dinshah Ardeshir, Esq., Baroda	20	0	0
Baboo Dwarkanath Ghosh, Deoli	5	0	0
,, Juggeshur Ghose, Station Master, Sahebgunge	5	0	0
,, Ashutosh Chatterjee Comillah	10	0	0
,, Amulya Ruthna Mookerjee, Darbhunga	0	7	6
,, Sristydaur Ghose, Simla	5	0	0
,, S. B. Thakur, Shadapur	23	8	0
,, Bollinarain Barrah, Nowgong	13	4	0
,, Gopimohun Sen, Shahebzadabazar	6	4	0
,, Ramdas Sen, Berhampore	13	4	0
,, Narendranarain Roy, Meherpore	20	0	0

ERRATUM.

For Baboo Preonath Ghose, Noakhally read
,, Sreenath Ghose, ,, ... Rs. 13 4 1

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—*October* 2, 1878.

GENERAL.—Mr. H. Lee, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 3rd instant.

Moulvi Shere Ali, Officiating Deputy Collector, employed on settlement work, Sonthal Pergunnahs, was on privilege leave from the 24th July to 23rd August last.

Mr. T. D. Beighton, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Midnapore district.

Baboo Umbica Churn Roy Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Dinagepore, is allowed leave for one month, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 1st October next.

Baboo Keder Nath Dutt, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bogra, is transferred to the Burdwan Division.

Mr. F. E. Pargiter, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Perozepore, Backergunge, is transferred to Jessore, and is appointed to have charge of the Magoorah division of that district.

Baboo Protap Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Backergunge, and is appointed to have charge of the Perozepore division of that district.

Mr. C. J. S. Faulder, Assistant Magistrate and Collector Saran, on leave is transferred to the Sudder Station of the Moorshedabad district.

Major W. L. Sarunells, Assistant Commissioner, Hazareebagh, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Deputy Commissioner of Singbhoom.

Mr. R. H. Renny is appointed to act, until further orders as an Assistant Commissioner of the Third Grade, and is posted to the Sudder Station of the Manbhoom district, with effect from the date he is relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Singbhoom.

Advertisements.

A Special Meeting of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Friday the 18th October 1878 at 4 P. M., to pass the Administration Report of the Calcutta Municipality for the year 1877.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

পোর্টক্যানিং এবং ল্যাণ্ড ইম্প্রুভমেণ্ট কোং লিমিটেড।

এতদ্দ্বারা সকলকে সংবাদ দেওয়া যাইতেছে, যে উক্ত কোম্পানির পঞ্চম ডিবিডেণ্ট অর্থাৎ মুনাফার অংশ আগামী ১৬ই অক্টোবর বুধবার তারিখ হইতে প্রত্যেক শেয়ারে ১৫ টাকা হিসাবে দেওয়া স্থির হইয়াছে। যে অংশিদারদিগের নাম রেজিষ্টরিতে ৩রা তারিখ পর্য্যন্ত লিখিত আছে, তাঁহারা আপন আপন শেয়ার সার্টিফিকেট দাখিল করিলেই উক্ত ডিবিডেণ্ট পাইতে পারিবেন। এই ডিবিডেণ্ট বোম্বাই নগরীতে উক্ত কোম্পানির ৮ নং ফার্বস ষ্ট্রীটের উক্ত আফিসে প্রদত্ত হইবেক এবং কলিকাতা রাজধানীতে ডেবিড সাসুন কোম্পানির ১০৪ নং ক্লাইভ ষ্ট্রীটের কর্ম্মালয়ে দেওয়া যাইবেক।

বোম্বাই
৩রা অক্টোবর ১৮৭৮।
} ডাইরেক্টরদিগের অনুমত্যানুসারে। সদানন্দ বালকৃষ্ণ কর্ম্মাধ্যক্ষ।

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

To Brick makers and others.

For the new Main Conduit for the "*Extension of the Water-supply.*" Tenders are hereby invited to supply the following approximate quantities of materials which will be required to be delivered and stacked in each mile on the side of the Barrackpore Trunk Road from the Pumping Station at Tallah to the road leading from the Cantonments to the Barrackpore Railway Sation. Delivery to be completed in 1879.

Well burnt khoah broken into 1½ inch cubes..... 86,000 cft.
1st class Bricks (to be table moulded or equal thereto.) ..... 17,00,000 lacs.

Parties tendering are requested to specify the miles for which they will undertake to complete the contract.

Probably one-half the quantity of bricks will require to be moulded with radiated sides.

Tenders will be received by the Engineer up to the 19th October

JAMES KIMBER,
Engineer to the Corporation.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT

OF INDIA,

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA

INVITE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEIR NEW AND WELL SELECTED STOCK OF

Electroplated ware.	Iron Bedsteads.
Table and Pocket Cutlery.	Children's Cot.
Britannia Metal ware.	Garden Chairs and Seats
Japanned ware.	Gardening Tools.
Block-tin ware.	Lawn Mowing Machines
Enamelled Iron ware.	Garden Rollers,
Copper brazlery.	Water Barrows.
Brass Foundry for Builders and Cabinet Makers.	Garden Engines and Syringes.
Kerosine Lamps and Lanterns.	Hand, Lift, and Force Pumps.
Argand and Argyle Table Lamps.	Stable fittings.
Money, Letter and Provision Scales.	Gram Mills.
Salter's Spring Balances.	Chaff Cutters.
Cooking and Heating Stoves.	Ploughs and Harrows.
Kerosine Stoves.	Oils, Paints and Varnish.
Register Grates.	Engineers and Carpenters Tools.
Fenders and Fire Irons.	Sodawater and Bottling Machines.
	Bird Cages.

AGENTS FOR

WILCOX AND GIBBS' NEW AUTOMATIC SEWING MACHINE.

Manufacturers of and Agents for Sale of

JEBEN'S PATENT SWIFT AND SURE TRANSPLANTING TOOLS.

MANUFACTURERS OF

MACNAMARA'S FILTERS.

Prices and particulars on Application.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
Calcutta,
AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, Lower Chitpore Road.
C. K. SEN & CO'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 Annas. Postage &c., 8 Annas
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & Co.'s

CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. In also restores the virile powers which have been lost ot account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN. & CO.'S

Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. Postage &c., 10 As.
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.
C. K. SEN & CO. 'S

Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager.

Notice.

The 9th September 1878.

Notice is hereby given that the Government steamer *Pioneer*, which has been plying experimentally as a passenger vessel with a passenger boat in tow between Cuttack and Chandbally and *vice versa* will continue to ply, until further notice, between those places, taking up and setting down passengers, &c., at intermediate stations on the way.

The time of starting from Cuttack and Chandbally and the fares and rates for goods, are noted below.

The *Pioneer* will leave the Jobra Lock Ghaut, from and after the 1st August 1878, every Tuesday, and Chandbally Ghaut every Thursday, at 4 P.M., but the time of leaving Chandbally will be modified to suit the arrival of the Calcutta steamer.

FARES CUTTACK TO CHANDBALLY.

1st class passengers Rs. 25, including two servants and four maunds luggage.

2nd class passengers Rs. 10, including one servant and two maunds luggage.

3rd class passengers Rs. 2 including one servant and half maund luggage.

Packages will be charged at rates ranging from 4 annas to one rupee each according to size; but bales and large light cases will be charged by measurement, at Rs. 7 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

Heavy packages of small bulk at Rs. 7 per ton of 28 maunds. Palkee on deck Rs. 5.

FARES TO INTERMEDIATE STATIONS.

	1st Class. Rs. A. P.	2nd Class. Rs. A. P.	3rd Class Rs. A. P.
Cuttack to Jagutpore ...	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 1 0
Ditto to Barbaria ...	2 0 0	1 0 0	0 2 0
Ditto to Kendupatna ...	5 0 0	2 0 0	0 5 0
Ditto to Dhanpore ...	7 0 0	3 0 0	0 7 0
Ditto to Kendrapara ...	8 0 0	4 0 0	1 0 0
Ditto to Patamundee ...	12 0 0	5 0 0	1 0 0
Ditto to Hunsua ...	16 0 0	7 0 0	1 0 0
Ditto to Chandbally ..	25 0 0	10 0 0	2 0 0

To intermediate places between those shown above no extra fare will be charged,

The above rates are for passage only on board the steamer *Pioneer*; but a khansamah with cooking utensils and crockery will be maintained on board, who will make his own charges for messing 1st and 2nd class passengers, the former not to exceed Rs. 3 and the latter Re. 1½ per diem per head. First class passengers are prohibited hereafter from making their own arrangements.

Goods for the present will only be booked for Cuttack, Kendupatna, Kendrapara, Patamundee, Hunsua, and Chandbally at the following rates:

RATES FOR PACKAGES.

		Rs. A. P.
Cuttack to Kendupatna, as	1 to 4 according to size; per ton	1 8 0
Ditto to Kendrapara	„ 2 to 6 ditto ditto ...	2 4 0
Ditto to Patamundee	„ 3 to 8 ditto ditto ...	3 8 0
Ditto to Hunsua	„ 4 to 12 ditto ditto ...	5 8 0
Ditto to Chandbally	„ 4 to Re.1 ditto ditto ...	7 6 0

From Chandbally to Cuttack the fares and rates for goods will be the same as those shown above from Cuttack to Chandbally.

RATES AND FARES TO INTERMEDIATE STATIONS,

	Packages, each,	Per ton	1st class	2nd class	3rd class
	Ans.	Rs.A	Rs.A.	Rs.A.	Rs.A.
Chandbally to Hunsua	1 to 4	1 8	5 0	2 0	0 5
Ditto to Patamundee	2 to 6	3 4	12 0	5 0	0 12
Ditto to Kendrapara	3 to 8	4 0	16 0	7 0	1 0
Ditto to Dhanpore ...	.....	...	18 0	8 0	1 2
Ditto to Kendupatna	4 to 12	5 8	20 0	9 0	1 8
Ditto to Cuttack ...	4 to Re.	7 0	25 0	10 0	2 0

No extra charges will be made for passengers or goods being landed at intermediate places between those noted above.

The steamer has accomodation for four first class and 30 third class or deck passengers, and the boat for six second class and ten third class or deck passengers.

The Government do not hold themselves responsible for delay, detention, or unforeseen accidents, but every effort will be made to ensure safety and keep good time, and avoidance of detention or delay in going to and returning from Chandbally.

D. B. HORN,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt, of Bengal,
in the P. W. D. Irrigation Branch.

Notice.

With reference to the tender of a vessel to carry 400 Indian Emigrants to Fiji. Agents and owners of ships will be good enough to specify the rate of freight they are prepared to accept for the 100 tons Government stores to be shipped to the Colony.

ROBERT W. S. MITCHELL,
Emigration Agent for Fiji

NOTICE.

Wanted 4 temporary Surveyors from 1st November 1878 to 1st July 1879 on a salary of Rs. 50 each per mensem including travelling. Applications will be received by the undersigned on or before the 20th October 1878. Preference will be given to the Candidates who have passed in Surveying and possess practical knowledge.

J. KELEHER,
Chairman, Road Cess Committee, Backergunge.
Barisal, the 28th Sept. 1878.

WANTED

A clerk, must write a good legible hand, have a good knowledge of English and accounts. Salary Rs. 80 per month. Apply personally at Store and Shipping, Commsst. Office. 6, Park Street, between 10-30 A.M. and 2 P.M. daily.

BUILDING FUND OF THE TEMPLE ASYLUM FOR NATIVE BLIND AND INCURABLES.

To SUBSCRIBERS.

The undersigned begs to invite the attendance of all Subscribers to the above Fund at the Town Hall, Calcutta on Saturday, 19th October 1878 at 3-30 P.M., to consider what further steps should be taken to carry out the objects for which the Subscriptions were collected.

C. O. WOODFORD,
M.D., F.R.C.S., LOND.
Hony. Secretary,
Temple Asylum Fund for Native Blind & Incurables.
Calcutta, October 10th 1878.

THROUGH GOODS RATES BETWEEN CALCUTTA AND DARJEELING.

The following are the rates per maund charged on the Railways for the different classes of goods between Sealdah or Chitpore and Siliguri.

If consignments are sent from Armenian Ghat, the Port Trust Tramway charge is 4·84 pies per maund extra.

CLASS.	E. B. RAILWAY. From Sealdah or Chitpore to Damookdea.	E. B. RAILWAY. Unloading or loading at Damookdea.	N. B. RAILWAY. Including Ferry and loading.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	
1st ...	0 3 2	0 0 2	0 6 5	0 9 9	
2nd ...	0 6 5	0 0 2	0 12 5	1 3 0	If over 00
3rd ...	0 9 7	0 0 2	1 2 4	1 12 1	maunds.
Tea ...	0 6 6	0 0 2	1 2 0	1 8 8	If under
Do. ...	0 9 7	0 0 2	1 2 0	1 11 9	200 mds.

In addition to the above, the E. B. Railway Company's terminal charge is 8 annas for every consignment under 32 maunds, and 3 pies per maund for each consignment over 32 maunds.

The following articles come under the classes named.

1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
Food-grain.	Cotton or woollen piece goods.	Wines & Spirits bottled.
Tea Lead.	Tobacco.	Furniture (polished or carved damageable.)
Iron.	Beer.	Cigars (not country.)
	Baggage.	

The present advertised charge by the Carrying Companies is Rs. 1-13-0 per maund from Siliguri to Darjeeling.

For further particulars see published classification of goods.

J. G. LINDSAY, Major, R. E.,
Engineer-in-Chief, N. B. S. Railway.
Darjeeling, 24th September 1878.

NOTICE.

Wanted a District Engineer for the District Road Cess Committee, Julpigoori, on a Salary of Rs. 250 per mensem, rising by biennial increment of 25 to 300 with travelling allowance of 3 per diem for every 24 hours, during which, the District Engineer is absent, from the head quarters, at a greater distance, than 5 miles from the station on duty, the applicants to have the qualifications of an Assistant Engineer of the P. W. D. Applications will be received by the Chairman, till the 31st proximo, to be accompanied with copies of testimonials which will not be returned.

A security of Rs. 1000 only is required.

Sd. E. G. LILLINGSTON,
Chairman.

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BY APPOINTMENT
To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble
LORD LYTTON, G.M.S.I.
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,
&c., &c., &c.,
BATHGATE & CO.,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.

The following are now in stock :—

Corbyn's Phorphorus Pearls.

The beneficial results attending their use in cases of prostration from Sickness, or Overwork, Nervous Debility or Exhaustion from whatever cause arising, is attested by remarkable increase of nervous power, from the first day of administration, and by the enormous demand for them.

Per bottle, Re. 1-8 cash ; Rs. 2-0 credit.

Fruit Julien.

Is the most *refreshing* and *agreeable* purgative that can be taken. It is the best remedy for habitual constipation, so very prevalent in the Tropics, as it can be taken for any length of time, without the least inconvenience ; its agreeable flavour is an allurement to its use, whilst its innocent composition is a guarantee of its suitability in all cases where a laxative is required.

It is indispensible on a Sea Voyage.

Price, per bottle, Rs. 2 cash ; Rs. 2-8 credit

Brown's Bronchial Troches.

Public Speakers and Singers will find these Troches invaluable for clearing and strengthening the voice. One or two Lozenges, dissolved gradually in the mouth, will almost invariably give immediate relief in cases of Hoarseness or Loss of Voice, Coughs Irritation or Soreness of the Throat, occasioned by cold or unusual exertion of the Vocal organs.

Per bottle, Re. 1-4 cash.

Whitmore's Stomachic and Liver Pills.

No Pill is so efficacious in promoting Digestion, strengthening the stomach, correcting Acidity, preventing or removing Headache, Giddindss, &c., arising from a Costive Habit Debilitated Stomach, or Torpid Liver.

They require no change of Diet, and those of the most delicate constitution may take them with safety.

Taken as an adjunct with Wilkinson's Sarsaparilla with the greatest success.

Price Re. 1. and 2-8 cash ; Re. 1-4 and 3 credit.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT,
51, Park Street.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1809.

President.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

General Court of Directors.
Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.

Report by the Directors
PRESENTED TO THE
Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576: 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

INDIAN BRANCH.
CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.

Local Board of Directors:
R. A. Lyall, Esq., (Lyal, Rennie & Co.), Merchant.
E. T. Roberts, Esq., Solicitor.
Robert Steel, Esq., Merchant.
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